

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

VOL. XXXIX.—No. 2.]

FEBRUARY, 1931.

[PRICE SIXPENCE NET.]

EMPLOYMENT, WAGES, COST OF LIVING, AND TRADE DISPUTES IN JANUARY.

EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

THERE was some fluctuation in the course of employment during January, but at the end of the month the numbers unemployed showed a net decrease as compared with the end of December, 1930, although they remained higher than immediately before Christmas.

Among workpeople insured against unemployment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the percentage unemployed in all industries taken together was 21·5 at 26th January, 1931, as compared with 20·2 at 22nd December, 1930, and 12·4 at 27th January, 1930. For males alone the percentage at 26th January, 1931, was 22·1, and for females 19·9. At 22nd December, 1930, the corresponding percentages were 20·7 and 18·8.

Insured Persons in Work in Great Britain.—It is estimated that on 26th January, 1931, there were approximately 9,128,300 insured persons aged 16 to 64 in work in Great Britain. This was 269,300 less than a month before, and 935,700 less than a year before.

Numbers Unemployed (excluding Persons normally in Casual Employment).—At 26th January, 1931, there were 1,875,330 persons on the Registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain who were out of a situation. This was 108,932 more than a month before and 799,231 more than a year before. The total on 26th January, 1931, included 1,365,126 men, 61,937 boys, 394,842 women and 53,425 girls. It was made up approximately of 1,313,000 insured persons who had paid at least 30 contributions during the preceding two years and therefore satisfied the full contributions condition for the receipt of unemployment benefit; 455,500 insured persons who had paid less than 30 contributions during the preceding two years; and 106,830 uninsured persons. The claimants for benefit, numbering 1,697,928, included 254,645 men, 7,056 boys, 54,939 women and 4,616 girls who had been on the Register for less than one month.

Numbers Temporarily Stopped.—At 26th January, 1931, there were registered as unemployed in Great Britain 378,630 men, 11,961 boys, 202,801 women and 14,051 girls who were on short time or were otherwise suspended from work on the definite understanding that they were shortly to return to their former employment. The total of 607,443 was 167,187 less than a month before, but 275,013 more than a year before.

Numbers Unemployed normally in Casual Employment.—At 26th January, 1931, there were on the Registers in Great Britain 107,041 men, 278 boys, 2,536 women, and 22 girls who normally seek a livelihood by means of jobs of short duration; these are mainly employed in dock, harbour, river and canal service. The total of 109,877 was 7,778 more than a month before, and 26,887 more than a year before.

Industries in which Principal Variations occurred.—Increases in the numbers unemployed occurred in a large number of industries, of which the principal included building and public works contracting, with the manufacture of bricks, tiles and cement; the glass

industries; engineering; shipbuilding and ship repairing; the manufacture of metal goods; the woollen and worsted, jute, hosiery, lace and carpet industries; textile bleaching, dyeing and finishing; the clothing industries, except hat and cap manufacture; and the transport and distributive trades.

There was an improvement, however, in the manufacture of pottery, steel, and tinplates, and in the motor vehicle, artificial silk yarn, linen, hat and cap, boot and shoe, and paper industries.

WAGES.

In the industries for which statistics are regularly compiled by the Department, the changes in rates of wages reported as operating in January, with the exception of those affecting about 100 workpeople, were all reductions, amounting in the aggregate to about £10,800 in the weekly full-time wages of 166,000 workpeople.

Among the principal bodies of workpeople whose wages were reduced were those employed in the textile bleaching, dyeing, etc., industries in Yorkshire and Lancashire and in Scotland, and workers employed by electricity supply undertakings in various districts in Great Britain. Other workpeople affected by reductions included iron miners and blastfurnace workers in Cumberland and Northamptonshire, blastfurnace workers in the Cleveland district, skilled wire drawers in the iron and steel wire manufacturing industry, brass workers at Birmingham, wool textile operatives in Scotland and in the Saddleworth, Yeadon, and Leicester districts, house painters in Scotland, and warehouse workers at Liverpool.

COST OF LIVING.

At 31st January, the average level of retail prices of the commodities taken into account in the statistics compiled by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, and miscellaneous items) was approximately 52 per cent. above the level of July, 1914, as compared with 53 per cent. a month ago, and 64 per cent. a year ago. For food alone the corresponding figures were 36, 38 and 54.

These statistics are designed to indicate the average increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living of working-class families. Accordingly, the changes in the prices of the various articles included are combined proportionately to the relative importance of those items in pre-war working-class family expenditure, and no allowance is made for any changes in the standard of living.

TRADE DISPUTES.

The number of trade disputes, involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in January was 37. In addition, 13 disputes which began before January were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The number of workpeople involved in all disputes in January (including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 280,000, and the aggregate duration of all disputes in January was about 3,400,000 working days.

INSURED PERSONS IN EMPLOYMENT.

VARIATIONS IN THE PERIOD JUNE, 1923, TO JUNE, 1930.

IN an article on the changes in the estimated numbers of insured persons in the various industries, which appeared in the issue of this GAZETTE for November, 1930 (pages 396-399), it was indicated (page 397) that legislative and administrative changes in the conditions for the receipt of unemployment benefit had influenced the numbers recorded as insured in the various industries in recent years, and had thereby rendered the figures not strictly comparable with those for earlier years, and it was intimated that a series of tables was in course of preparation which would furnish a more accurate index of industrial expansion or contraction. This new series has been obtained by deducting the numbers of insured persons recorded as unemployed from the estimated numbers insured. It furnishes in respect of each of 100 industry groups a measure of the changes between June, 1923, and June, 1930, in the numbers of insured persons in employment.

Apart from the fact that the new series eliminates the effect of legislative and administrative changes on the numbers within the scheme of unemployment insurance, it has the added advantage of providing a more direct measure of the volume of employment in each industry. The importance of this is seen in industries, such as shipbuilding and ship repairing, which have experienced severe depression for several years and in which the numbers of insured workers have shown a heavy decline. In some such industries the numbers unemployed classified as belonging to the industries have decreased since 1923 to a greater extent than the numbers insured, and the employment Index is therefore now higher in relation to the level of June, 1923, than the insured Index. On the other hand there are industries, such as coalmining, in which the decline in numbers insured has lagged behind the decline in employment, and the employment Index, therefore, is now lower than the Index of all insured workers.

The date with which comparison is made (end of June, 1923) is, of course, an arbitrary one, and its selection has been governed by the fact that it is the earliest date in respect of which unemployment figures and numbers insured on a comparable basis are available for individual industries. The rate of unemployment at June, 1923, and the course of unemployment since that date have not, of course, been uniform for every industry, and it is necessary to bear this fact in mind when comparing the Index numbers for various industries for later years. For example, in coalmining the percentage rate of unemployment among insured persons at the end of June, 1923, was only 2.6, while in shipbuilding and ship repairing it was 44.1. At the end of June, 1930, however, the percentage for coal mining was 23.9 and for shipbuilding and ship repairing 30.7. The changes in these percentages are influenced to some extent by the changes in the numbers of insured persons in the respective industries.

In preparing the tables no account has been taken of absence from work through sickness or holidays or through other temporary circumstances which are not reflected in the unemployment figures, nor has any deduction been made in respect of persons directly involved in trade disputes. Figures are not, in fact, available on all these points in respect of individual industries; but since they have no essential relation to the relative volume of employment available, their omission or inclusion can have no important bearing on the course of the statistics.

For the purpose of the analysis the position at the end of June in each year has been taken. This is the point at which the annual count of insured workers is taken, and the records of the Department show that if the numbers unemployed, represented by the unemploy-

ment books lodged at employment exchanges at that date, are deducted from the total numbers insured, as indicated by the number of unemployment books exchanged, the difference represents closely for each industry the number of unemployment books which were actually in the hands of employers in respect of insured workers in their employment. It would have been possible to take, as a measure of unemployment, the average numbers recorded as unemployed in each industry over a period of 12 months, but a corresponding average for the total numbers insured in each industry is not available. On the latter point a count is taken once a year only, and this represents the position at the beginning of July. The tables have therefore been prepared in respect of that date in each year.

Owing to the fluctuations in the volume of unemployment from one year to another the Index numbers representing the estimated numbers of insured workers in employment do not necessarily show the same relative changes from year to year as the Index numbers representing the total estimated numbers insured. The following Table gives a comparison between the two series of figures for the eight years 1923 to 1930:—

COMPARISON OF INDEX NUMBERS* FOR ESTIMATED NUMBERS INSURED AND ESTIMATED NUMBERS OF INSURED PERSONS IN EMPLOYMENT, 1923-1930 (JUNE, 1923, TAKEN AS = 100).

Date.	Estimated Numbers Insured.	Estimated Numbers Insured in Employment.	Date.	Estimated Numbers Insured.	Estimated Numbers Insured in Employment.
June, 1923	100.0	100.0	June, 1927	105.6	108.6
1924	101.6	103.8	1928	106.5	107.2
1925	103.5	102.9	1929	108.4	110.5
1926	104.8	90.2	1930	111.2	106.1

It should be noted that the Index number representing the estimated numbers of insured persons in employment in 1926 has not allowed for any employment in the coal-mining industry, i.e., coal-mining has been excluded from the figures. At the end of June, 1926, the coal-mining dispute was in progress, and exact figures showing the numbers of workpeople at work in that industry are not available, but it is known that the numbers were comparatively small. Most of the other industries were adversely affected by the stoppage of work, and this factor has necessarily reduced the Index number for the year in question. It will be observed from the Table that for 1924, 1927, 1928 and 1929—years of comparatively good employment—the Index numbers for insured persons in employment are higher than those representing the total estimated numbers insured, thus showing that the industrial improvement from the position at June, 1923, had absorbed some part of the numbers unemployed as well as the natural increase in the insured population. On the other hand, the depression in the coal-mining industry in June, 1925, and the general trade depression in 1930, have produced Index numbers for persons in employment which are lower than the corresponding figures for the total estimated numbers insured. At June, 1929, there was an increase in the estimated number of insured workers in employment of 10.5 per cent. over June, 1923. The Index figure for that year is the highest in the Table. At June, 1930, it had fallen to 106.1, but this was well above the figure for any year prior to 1927. At December, 1930, however, it had fallen to 100.2.

INDUSTRIAL ANALYSIS: JUNE, 1923, TO JUNE, 1930.

The following Table showing the figures for each of 100 industry groups has been prepared on the same lines as those published in the November issue of the MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE during the past five years, with the difference already explained that the figures relate to the estimated numbers in employment. The industries have been arranged in descending order of degree of expansion since June, 1923.

INDUSTRIAL ANALYSIS OF CHANGES BETWEEN JUNE, 1923, AND JUNE, 1930, IN THE ESTIMATED NUMBERS OF INSURED WORKPEOPLE IN EMPLOYMENT IN GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.

Industry.	Estimated Number of Insured Persons aged 16 and over in employment at		Estimated Number of Insured Persons aged 16 to 64 inclusive in employment at			Index Numbers.* June 1923, = 100.						
	June, 1923.	June, 1927.	June, 1927.	June, 1929.	June, 1930.	June, 1924.	June, 1925.	June, 1926†.	June, 1927.	June, 1928.	June, 1929.	June, 1930.

(A) INDUSTRIES IN WHICH INCREASES HAVE OCCURRED.

X Silk and Artificial Silk ...	34,888	51,799	50,400	67,735	60,855	114.2	125.0	129.7	148.5	197.0	199.6	179.4
Electrical Wiring and Contracting ...	9,924	13,841	13,406	15,414	16,612	118.8	117.6	121.4	139.5	149.5	160.8	173.3
Artificial Stone and Concrete ...	9,039	15,158	14,600	15,148	14,508	114.1	133.2	154.5	167.7	163.5	174.4	167.0
Heating and Ventilating Apparatus ...	5,265	7,171	6,900	8,361	8,415	103.1	135.4	120.9	136.2	149.1	165.1	166.1
Tramway and Omnibus Service ...	105,087	130,879	127,400	150,974	157,487	109.8	110.2	116.4	124.5	134.7	147.5	153.8
Scientific and Photographic Instruments and Apparatus ...	16,590	23,599	22,900	25,661	24,618	114.1	120.1	127.1	142.2	146.0	159.2	152.7
Electrical Engineering ...	56,965	75,672	74,200	80,750	83,208	119.4	126.3	119.0	132.8	135.8	144.4	148.8
Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	103,277	145,393	139,400	134,626	145,250	110.0	125.1	133.7	140.8	132.8	136.0	146.7
Electrical Cables, Wire and Lamps ...	64,989	77,954	77,200	89,625	94,304	107.3	116.4	124.7	120.0	126.6	139.3	146.6
Paint, Varnish, Red and White Leads ...	12,978	18,038	17,400	18,152	18,014	121.6	121.4	124.4	139.0	142.9	144.8	143.7
Distributive Trades ...	1,180,548	1,509,307	1,482,100	1,586,868	1,622,112	108.2	116.9	119.9	127.9	132.2	136.9	140.0
Brick, Tile, etc., Making ...	56,240	82,861	78,500	74,940	74,554	118.3	131.4	112.6	147.3	136.7	140.7	139.9
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pits ...	11,875	14,782	14,200	15,120	15,749	109.4	118.2	118.3	124.5	123.9	132.9	138.4
Hotel, Boarding House, Club Services ...	233,437	294,981	289,300	311,913	311,257	109.3	117.6	118.2	126.4	129.4	136.3	136.0
Road Transport not separately specified	122,821	155,449	151,500	162,701	161,858	105.8	113.2	114.1	126.6	131.9	136.0	135.3
Furniture Making, Upholstering, etc. ...	87,349	109,401	105,100	113,370	112,602	104.9	110.5	113.6	125.3	130.4	135.2	134.2

* See note * at foot of next page.

† See note † at foot of next page.

Industry.	Estimated Number of Insured Persons aged 16 and over in employment at:		Estimated Number of Insured Persons aged 16 to 64 inclusive, in employment at:			Index Numbers.* June 1923 = 100.						
	June, 1923.	June, 1927.	June, 1927.	June, 1929.	June, 1930.	June, 1924.	June, 1925.	June, 1926.	June, 1927.	June, 1928.	June, 1929.	June, 1930.
Stationery and Typewriting Requisites (not paper) ...	4,487	5,537	5,400	5,986	5,876	96.9	101.4	105.6	123.4	130.6	136.5	134.0
Laundries, Dyeing and Dry Cleaning ...	101,309	122,623	120,300	130,306	131,892	106.0	110.3	116.1	121.0	126.2	131.1	132.7
Local Government ...	227,563	246,592	228,800	253,436	279,107	100.1	104.7	104.9	108.4	112.1	120.1	132.2
Wall Paper making ...	4,428	5,120	5,000	5,970	5,673	122.1	105.7	103.3	115.6	127.7	138.9	132.0
Stone Quarrying and Mining ...	30,574	40,619	38,900	39,288	38,433	113.3	120.1	109.6	132.8	129.4	134.2	131.3
Entertainments and Sports ...	51,729	62,188	61,000	66,365	65,535	112.1	113.7	113.6	120.2	122.5	130.7	129.1
Industries and Services not separately specified ...	79,268	100,782	99,400	101,804	99,075	104.3	113.6	118.8	127.2	126.6	130.4	126.8
Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft ...	173,541	220,095	217,500	230,416	214,696	109.4	116.4	116.0	126.8	126.3	134.4	125.2
Shirts, Collars, Underclothing, etc. ...	61,707	72,801	72,400	77,354	76,343	111.5	111.7	107.9	118.0	117.0	126.1	124.4
Toys, Games and Sports Requisites ...	10,619	11,042	10,800	11,949	12,731	93.4	94.5	96.2	104.0	107.6	115.4	123.0
Brushes and Brooms ...	7,897	9,733	9,500	8,959	9,414	114.9	113.6	113.2	123.3	127.5	116.7	122.6
Printing, Publishing and Bookbinding ...	215,010	245,186	239,100	251,067	256,368	106.4	107.9	109.7	114.0	116.4	119.7	122.2
Musical Instruments ...	18,443	22,676	21,900	26,299	21,709	95.8	110.6	110.7	123.0	137.0	147.6	121.9
Building ...	626,440	792,438	754,300	755,743	726,268	106.5	112.6	116.9	126.5	123.5	126.8	121.8
Food Industries not separately specified ...	86,330	103,323	100,800	102,794	101,658	112.8	108.0	120.4	119.7	118.7	122.0	120.7
Professional Services ...	104,206	113,940	111,800	118,235	122,070	101.8	105.9	108.7	109.3	111.6	115.6	119.3
Metal Industries not separately specified ...	146,840	172,306	168,500	176,929	170,361	107.9	110.1	108.9	117.3	116.1	123.2	118.6
Rubber ...	50,887	56,155	54,700	60,918	58,557	103.7	108.2	93.3	110.4	118.8	122.8	118.1
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting ...	14,946	18,108	17,400	18,405	16,886	99.0	116.4	113.6	121.1	124.0	128.3	117.7
Constructional Engineering ...	20,414	25,368	24,700	25,380	23,386	103.5	112.1	109.8	124.3	123.2	127.5	117.5
Iron and Steel Tubes ...	20,910	24,646	24,000	26,501	23,833	115.1	108.2	96.3	117.9	119.6	130.0	116.8
Fishing ...	22,376	25,330	24,500	25,420	25,171	105.6	108.1	102.0	113.2	115.4	117.4	116.3
Glass Bottles ...	12,447	15,775	15,200	14,739	13,853	123.5	126.7	97.3	126.7	119.7	122.8	115.5
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Iron Founding ...	70,045	81,433	77,300	80,338	76,411	103.1	108.8	106.8	116.2	117.5	120.8	114.9
Oilcloth, Linoleum, etc. ...	11,429	13,595	13,100	13,100	12,320	114.4	114.2	75.6	118.9	118.1	118.8	111.8
Hosiery ...	83,732	94,747	93,100	99,692	91,055	106.9	106.0	98.8	113.2	117.9	121.2	110.5
Drink Industries ...	93,203	105,379	102,900	101,672	99,496	109.1	113.4	110.2	113.0	110.6	111.7	109.3
Explosives ...	16,310	17,626	17,100	17,660	17,133	106.0	104.3	94.4	108.1	121.3	111.9	108.6
Shipping Service ...	105,481	123,093	121,200	119,820	113,192	100.5	107.2	104.7	115.6	112.8	114.3	108.0
Tailoring ...	175,947	194,905	192,000	190,519	186,962	103.6	106.0	103.6	110.8	109.9	109.9	107.9
Tobacco, Cigars, Cigarettes and Snuff ...	41,407	41,200	40,600	44,190	43,991	97.7	97.9	101.7	99.5	103.2	108.2	107.8
Glass (excluding Bottles and Scientific Glass) ...	23,070	22,926	22,500	25,226	24,290	102.6	100.0	96.9	99.4	97.9	111.3	107.2
Slate Quarrying and Mining ...	7,781	11,043	10,600	9,342	7,969	131.0	134.8	134.1	142.0	135.1	125.2	106.8
Cardboard Boxes, Paper Bags and Stationery ...	50,976	53,946	53,600	55,788	53,603	101.2	100.7	104.4	105.8	105.6	110.2	105.9
Textile Industries not separately specified ...	37,022	40,600	40,000	41,874	38,163	105.5	107.0	102.2	109.7	112.4	115.1	104.9
Sawmilling and Machined Woodwork ...	50,763	55,306	52,600	53,434	50,453	103.6	101.8	101.3	109.0	108.6	110.7	104.5
Railway Carriages, Wagons and Tramcars ...	48,476	53,245	51,400	49,357	48,770	102.3	107.4	95.2	109.8	108.5	105.5	104.3
Commerce, Banking, Insurance and Finance ...	216,765	217,953	216,700	222,915	224,790	100.2	98.6	98.7	100.5	100.6	103.4	104.2
Hand Tools, Cutlery, Saws, Files ...	25,132	29,100	28,400	28,977	25,464	108.2	118.7	106.0	115.8	111.1	118.3	104.0
Hats and Caps (including Straw Plait) ...	31,802	32,359	31,800	33,708	32,391	99.3	101.1	100.6	101.8	102.6	107.8	103.6
Wood Boxes and Packing Cases ...	10,610	11,901	11,500	11,399	10,597	103.3	112.5	105.0	112.2	109.6	111.2	103.4
Paper and Paper Board ...	51,692	51,433	49,400	52,990	50,985	99.0	98.4	98.1	99.5	103.5	106.7	102.7
Chemicals ...	91,959	89,413	86,800	99,436	91,423	96.7	95.7	88.5	97.3	106.0	111.5	102.5
Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Confectionery ...	63,532	69,648	68,700	65,630	63,988	105.9	108.0	110.6	109.6	106.6	104.6	102.0
Grain Milling ...	27,388	29,220	27,500	27,530	26,095	108.4	107.5	105.9	106.7	104.2	107.0	101.4
Oil, Glue, Soap, Ink, Matches, etc. ...	70,932	74,074	70,900	69,360	68,774	104.5	103.7	103.0	104.4	105.1	102.2	101.3
Marine Engineering, etc. ...	51,489	48,525	47,500	53,356	50,951	108.7	94.0	80.0	94.3	94.7	105.9	101.1
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply Industries ...	160,027	162,921	155,300	152,972	154,198	100.8	104.7	108.1	101.8	100.8	100.3	101.1
Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc. ...	35,006	36,527	35,000	37,002	33,743	101.2	105.7	94.3	104.3	100.7	110.2	100.5
Total of above Industries ...	5,856,619	7,000,786	6,807,900	7,162,908	7,117,505	106.3	111.3	111.9	119.5	121.3	125.8	124.9

(B) INDUSTRIES IN WHICH DECREASES HAVE OCCURRED.

General Engineering: Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding	525,737	542,443	522,000	535,259	499,399	101.5	103.9	94.6	103.2	104.2	105.8	98.7
Tanning, Currying and Dressing	36,477	38,681	38,400	37,346	35,707	105.4	102.2	93.9	106.0	108.1	103.2	98.7
Lead, Tin and Copper Mining	3,950	5,345	5,100	4,489	3,730	107.7	118.0	108.0	135.3	126.9	118.4	98.4
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing	150,964	164,726	158,800	158,555	141,947	119.5	103.6	85.1	109.1	101.1	108.9	97.5
Bread, Biscuits, Cakes, etc.	143,233	138,321	136,100	135,593	137,327	92.1	90.9	94.0	96.6	95.9	96.2	97.5
Brass and Allied Metal Wares	25,790	26,684	25,900	25,886	23,740	98.0	103.7	103.8	103.4	100.2	103.4	94.8
Pottery, Earthenware, etc.	64,325	62,457	60,200	63,730	57,952	102.5	93.3	47.1	97.1	95.6	102.9	93.5
Carpets	24,484	23,150	22,800	23,825	22,373	104.0	94.8	81.3	94.5	94.1	98.9	92.9
Lace	16,301	16,766	16,000	15,264	14,101	101.7	98.9	92.8	102.9	102.2	98.4	90.9
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc....	24,641	23,463	22,900	23,006	21,734	98.1	95.5	73.7	95.2	93.8	95.5	90.2
Boots, Shoes, Slippers and Clogs	129,070	132,242	128,700	116,931	112,870	102.5	100.6	97.3	102.5	91.6	93.1	89.9
Dress Industries not separately specified	29,116	26,031	25,500	26,132	25,470	93.6	89.2	88.9	89.4	89.9	91.6	89.3
Dress Making and Millinery	110,493	102,725	102,000	100,494	97,540	92.8	92.0	92.2	93.0	92.9	91.7	89.0
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc. ...	42,943	40,997	39,900	38,713	37,179	96.5	93.3	88.8	95.5	94.7	92.6	88.9
Hemp, Rope, Cord, Twine, etc.	16,870	17,796	17,300	16,795	14,578	104.6	104.2	91.4	105.5	100.3	102.3	88.8
Woodworking not separately specified ...	23,652	22,250	21,500	21,069	20,269	100.6	95.5	89.8	94.1	91.4	92.1	88.6
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Ropes	21,962	19,464	18,500	20,277	18,441	99.9	96.5	89.7	88.6	97.9	97.2	88.3
Linen	68,772	78,079	76,000	68,347	58,433	107.8	80.5	91.6	113.5	88.9	102.1	87.3
Leather Goods	25,686	24,615	24,100	24,149	21,756	97.7	92.8	88.4	95.8	92.7	96.0	86.5
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining, etc.	15,906	13,626	13,100	14,089	12,821	80.6	73.8	32.1	85.7	83.6	92.5	84.2
Dock, Harbour, River and Canal Service	141,095	134,993	127,300	116,843	111,215	103.5	92.5	89.2	95.7	87.8	87.9	83.7
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc.	102,378	107,693	102,600	100,300	81,152	103.6	111.2	91.0	105.2	105.9	102.8	83.2
Tin Plates	28,786	24,125	23,000	24,057	22,726	98.9	78.5	37.3	83.8	107.7	87.6	82.8
Steel Melting and Iron Puddling, Iron and Steel Rolling and Forging	166,840	161,869	156,300	144,290	126,846	99.9	88.1	49.0	97.1	87.0	89.6	78.8
Woollen and Worsted	250,755	225,179	216,600	205,396	181,605	98.0	81.7	75.5	89.8	88.7	85.2	75.3
Cotton	445,422	529,714	522,200	478,710	329,853	108.9	117.7	96.8	118.9	109.7	109.0	75.1
Railway Service (non-permanent workers)	178,730	141,929	137,700	132,010	129,190	91.2	88.3	71.6	79.4	76.8	76.1	74.5
Jute	36,249	36,026	34,700	34,234	25,872	102.8	98.4	68.0	99.4	103.3	98.2	74.2
Transport, Communication and Storage not separately specified	20,639	16,711	16,000	16,425	14,545	92.6	95.6	86.7	81.0	80.7	83.0	73.5
Pig Iron (Blast Furnaces)	26,112	21,800	20,400	19,737	17,755	100.0	75.2	23.8	83.5	75.9	80.7	72.6
Carriages, Carts, etc.	24,299	19,264	18,700	17,443	17,032	91.5	92.3	76.0	79.4	76.1	74.0	72.3
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	13,982	10,689	10,200	10,696	9,588	89.9	69.9	27.9	76.4	65.9	79.9	71.6
Coal Mining	1,211,559	965,610	937,400	870,651	813,711	99.0	75.8	†	79.7	69.4	74.0	69.2
National Government	159,964	128,503	123,200	111,268	103,148	90.6	91.7	87.9	80.3	77.3	72.5	67.2
Mining and Quarrying not separately specified	24,300	16,862	16,200	15,426	14,841	85.2	79.0	67.4	69.4	65.1	66.1	63.6
Total of above Industries	4,331,482	4,060,828	3,937,300	3,767,435	3,376,446	100.4	91.6	60.9	93.7	88.1	89.7	80.4
TOTAL OF ALL INDUSTRIES AND SERVICES	10,188,101	11,061,614	10,745,200	10,930,343	10,493,951	103.8	102.9	90.2†	108.6	107.2	110.5	106.6

A comparison of these Tables with those given on pages 422 and 423 of this GAZETTE for November, 1930, shows that in the main the new series of figures has not resulted in many important changes in the order in which individual industries appear in the tables. The silk and artificial silk industry still appears as the group in which employment has expanded most rapidly since June, 1923, and the electrical trades, with the manufacture of artificial stone and concrete, and heating and ventilating apparatus, follow closely after that industry. It will be seen, however, that, while the tables based on the total estimated numbers insured show that there were 74 industries in which increases had occurred between June, 1923, and June, 1930, and 26 in which decreases had occurred, the new tables, based on insured workers in employment, include only 65 industries in which increases have occurred, and 35 in which there have been decreases. These 35 included at June, 1930, 32.2 per cent. of the total estimated number in employment. It should be mentioned, however, that of the 35 industries referred to, there are 10 in which the depression of 1930 was responsible for the decline. These are general engineering; leather tanning and dressing; lead, tin and copper mining; shipbuilding and ship-repairing; brass and allied metal wares manufacture; pottery, earthenware, etc.; hemp, rope, twine, etc., manufacture; the linen industry; textile bleaching, dyeing and finishing; and the cotton industry. These all showed increases at June, 1929, as compared with June, 1923. In the case of the cotton industry it will be seen that the Index numbers representing the numbers in employment showed, down to June, 1929, an increase over June, 1923, while the corresponding figures representing the total numbers of insured persons classified as belonging to the industry declined. The *insured* Index for June, 1929, was 99.1, while the *employed* Index for the same date was 109.0. Employment in the cotton industry was in a very depressed condition during June, 1923—the date with which comparison is made and for which the index figure is 100 in each case—and the difference between the numbers employed and the numbers insured, at that date, was therefore greater than in most industries. The present acute depression in the industry has, however, reduced the employed Index to 75.1 at June, 1930, thus giving a decline in the course of one year of over 30 per cent. in the numbers in employment in the industry.

In most cases the new series of figures based on numbers in employment has resulted in a lower Index number for June, 1930, than the corresponding figures representing the total estimated numbers of insured workers. This arises, of course, mainly from the heavy unemployment of last year. The trades in which the difference is greatest include those in which the depression has been most acutely felt. The following Table gives the more important instances of this kind:—

Industry.	Index number based on numbers insured. (June, 1923 = 100.)		Index number based on numbers in employment. (June, 1923 = 100.)	
	June, 1929.	June, 1930.	June, 1929.	June, 1930.
Silk and artificial silk ...	203.4	215.1	199.6	179.4
Cotton ...	99.1	100.8	109.0	75.1
Linen ...	100.0	102.4	102.1	87.3
Jute ...	100.0	104.6	98.2	74.2
Textile bleaching and dyeing, etc. ...	106.0	106.6	62.8	83.2
Musical instruments ...	149.9	138.8	147.6	121.9
Pottery and earthenware ...	106.5	113.2	102.9	93.5
Hand tools, cutlery, etc. ...	114.7	120.3	118.3	104.0
Slate quarrying ...	138.5	138.6	125.2	106.8
Lead, tin and copper mining ...	111.3	108.9	118.4	98.4
Coal mining ...	89.1	88.7	74.0	69.2

On the other hand, in some cases the new series furnishes an employment Index number for June, 1930, higher than the insured Index. These are industries which have either been expanding so rapidly as to absorb considerable numbers of their own unemployed

as well as to attract new entrants or transferees from other industries; or they are industries in which prolonged depression has led to a decline in the numbers insured. In some of these cases there has been a relatively greater reduction in the numbers unemployed classified as belonging to them. Examples of this kind include the following:—

Industry.	Index number based on numbers insured. (June, 1923 = 100.)		Index number based on numbers in employment. (June, 1923 = 100.)	
	June, 1929.	June, 1930.	June, 1929.	June, 1930.
Electrical wiring and contracting ...	144.4	160.9	160.8	173.3
Electric cables, wire and lamps ...	131.6	143.7	139.3	146.6
Road transport ...	125.8	130.1	136.0	135.3
Toys, games and sports requisites ...	106.3	117.6	115.4	123.0
Glass bottles ...	110.3	109.7	122.8	115.5
Glass (other than bottles and scientific glass) ...	101.9	105.5	111.3	107.2
Marine engineering ...	91.1	93.6	105.9	101.1
General engineering ...	91.4	92.3	105.8	98.7
Shipbuilding and ship repairing ...	78.5	78.6	108.9	97.5
Brass and allied metal wares ...	89.1	90.4	103.4	94.8
Iron ore mining ...	80.3	79.3	92.5	84.2
Lace ...	83.7	82.9	98.4	90.9

CHANGES BETWEEN JUNE, 1929, AND JUNE, 1930.

Although the Index numbers based on insured workers in employment show for all industries taken together a decline between June, 1929, and June, 1930, there are a few industries in which there have in fact been increases. These include electrical wiring and contracting; heating and ventilating apparatus manufacture; tramway and omnibus services; electrical engineering; public works contracting; manufacture of electrical cables, wire and lamps; distributive trades; clay, sand, gravel and chalk pits; laundries, dyeing and dry-cleaning; local government (largely increased by works for the relief of unemployment); toys, games and sports requisites; manufacture of brushes and brooms; printing, publishing and book-binding; professional services, commerce, banking, insurance and finance; gas, water and electricity supply; and bread, biscuit and cake manufacture. The relatively heaviest decline between June, 1929, and June, 1930, occurred in the cotton textile industry, textile bleaching, dyeing and finishing, the manufacture of jute, silk and artificial silk, musical instruments, hosiery, linen, hand tools, cutlery, saws, files, etc., slate quarrying and mining, and lead, tin and copper mining.

COAL-MINING INDUSTRY.

In the coal-mining industry there has been heavy unemployment during the past six years, and a considerable reduction in the numbers of insured workers classified as belonging to the industry. Nevertheless the Index numbers based on insured persons in employment are for nearly every year lower than those based on the total estimated numbers insured. It is clear that the transfer of workers from this industry to other industries has not kept pace with the decline in employment available in coal-mining. The following Table gives the figures for the various coal-mining districts in Great Britain. For the industry as a whole the number in employment at June, 1930, was only 69.3 per cent. of the figure for 1923, as compared with 74.1 at June, 1929, and 79.8 at June, 1927. In the Lancashire and Cheshire coalfield the Index figure for June, 1930, based on numbers in employment, was only 54.9 per cent. of the figure for June, 1923. In Yorkshire the Index figure for June, 1930, was 85.2, and in Kent, 274.1. In Wales the numbers in employment at June, 1930, were only 61.7 per cent. of the numbers at June, 1930, and the corresponding figure for Scotland was 65.1 per cent.

COAL MINING INDUSTRY—GREAT BRITAIN.

Numbers in Employment.

	Estimated Number of Insured Persons aged 16 and over in employment at:		Estimated Number of Insured Persons aged 16 to 64 inclusive in employment at:			Index Numbers.* June, 1923, = 100.					
	June, 1923.	June, 1927.	June, 1927.	June, 1929.	June, 1930.	June, 1924.	June, 1925.	June, 1927.	June, 1928.	June, 1929.	June, 1930.
Great Britain ...	1,211,502	965,509	937,300	870,598	813,663	99.0	75.8	79.8	69.5	74.1	69.3
England and Wales ...	1,063,409	849,148	824,500	771,309	720,226	99.2	76.2	79.8	69.4	74.6	69.7
Scotland ...	148,093	116,361	112,800	99,289	93,437	97.9	72.8	78.6	68.8	69.2	65.1
<i>Principal Districts in England and Wales:</i>											
Northumberland ...	62,072	48,065	46,700	45,910	36,466	97.2	64.3	77.4	68.4	76.1	60.4
Durham ...	173,367	127,041	123,500	132,745	123,064	101.3	67.1	73.3	73.1	78.8	73.0
Cumberland and Westmorland ...	11,900	9,311	9,100	8,903	9,343	97.8	92.0	78.2	86.1	76.5	80.3
Yorkshire ...	177,593	177,602	172,700	154,013	147,232	101.6	92.6	100.0	81.3	89.2	85.2
Lancashire and Cheshire ...	112,897	79,677	77,400	60,192	60,160	100.9	72.1	70.6	57.4	54.9	54.9
Derbyshire ...	64,349	53,286	51,800	49,213	46,505	94.6	67.1	82.8	73.6	78.7	74.3
Notts and Leicester ...	69,543	63,435	61,700	58,692	54,841	94.8	79.5	91.2	75.7	86.7	81.1
Warwickshire ...	14,801	13,122	12,700	12,380	11,092	103.2	89.7	88.7	81.6	86.5	77.5
Staffs, Worcs. and Salop ...	82,672	67,971	66,100	52,275	52,698	102.2	74.1	82.2	63.9	65.0	65.5
Gloucester and Somerset ...	15,505	10,762	10,500	9,670	8,784	90.6	72.4	69.4	62.0	63.9	58.1
Kent ...	11,968	2,726	2,600	4,266	5,146	100.7	95.5	138.5	194.7	227.3	274.1
Wales and Monmouth ...	276,133	195,866	189,600	183,045	165,145	97.5	76.7	70.9	62.2	68.5	61.7

* See footnote * on page 47.

GEOGRAPHICAL ANALYSIS.

The following Table gives figures in respect of the various divisions into which the country is divided for the administration of unemployment insurance. In this Table persons insured under special schemes in the banking and insurance industries are excluded, since a divisional analysis for these schemes is not available. It will be seen that the growth in the numbers of insured workers in employment has been most rapid in the South Eastern division, where the Index number for June, 1930, was 129·9, the corresponding figure for London being 119·0. In the South Eastern and South Western divisions, the

numbers in employment actually increased between June, 1929, and June, 1930, although there was a decline in every other division. The Table shows that the trade depression of 1930 was felt most severely in the Northern divisions. In the North Western division the Index number of insured persons in employment fell from 108·3 at June, 1929, to 97·0 at June, 1930, and in the North Eastern division from 103·0 to 97·1. In Scotland the decline was from 104·8 to 100·4, and in Wales from 84·6 to 78·6. In Northern Ireland, where the depression in the shipbuilding and linen industries has been acute, the Index number fell from 107·2 at June, 1929, to 98·9 at June, 1930.

GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.

Divisional Analysis of Estimated Number of Insured Persons in Employment.

NOTE.—The figures do not include persons insured under special schemes for the banking and insurance industries, for which divisional figures are not available.

Division.	Estimated Number of Insured Persons aged 16 and over in employment at:		Estimated Number of Insured Persons aged 16 to 64 inclusive in employment at:			Index Numbers.* June 1923 = 100.						
	June, 1923.	June, 1927.	June, 1927.	June, 1929.	June, 1930.	June, 1924.	June, 1925.	June,† 1926.	June, 1927.	June, 1928.	June, 1929.	June, 1930.
	Thousands.	Thousands.	Thousands.	Thousands.	Thousands.							
London	1,810	2,041	1,985	2,107	2,094	101·9	106·7	108·2	112·8	115·8	119·7	119·0
South Eastern	693	843	817	860	873	106·2	112·0	114·9	121·6	123·5	128·0	129·9
South-Western	691	783	758	783	789	103·5	105·9	106·1	113·3	113·2	117·0	117·9
Midlands	1,510	1,635	1,589	1,629	1,572	103·8	103·2	85·0	108·3	106·2	111·0	107·2
North-Eastern	1,741	1,775	1,720	1,736	1,638	103·4	95·1	70·1	102·0	99·0	103·0	97·1
North-Western	1,759	1,942	1,889	1,853	1,660	104·2	106·5	94·1	110·4	107·4	108·3	97·0
Scotland	1,110	1,178	1,144	1,130	1,083	104·0	100·4	87·0	106·1	104·2	104·8	100·4
Wales	583	516	499	477	443	100·5	89·2	43·7	88·5	82·1	84·6	78·6
Northern Ireland	211	223	219	222	205	101·9	94·3	93·8	105·7	98·0	107·2	98·9
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	10,108	10,936	10,620	10,797	10,357	103·4	102·5	89·7	108·2	106·8	110·0	105·5

* See footnote * on page 47.

† Exclusive of the coal-mining industry.

EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN IN NAVY, ARMY, AND AIR FORCE INSTITUTES.

CONSIDERABLE criticism has from time to time been directed against the practice of the Ministry of Labour in submitting women to vacancies with the Navy, Army, and Air Force Institutes. In order to obtain an independent and authoritative report which would carry conviction to the public, the Minister appointed a Committee of five women under the Chairmanship of Mrs. E. D. Simon, to inquire, by means of personal visits, into the conditions of employment of women staff in these canteens. The Committee has now presented its Report.†

The Committee states that the annual wastage of the women staff is high, owing chiefly to marriage and home domestic circumstances, and that there is, therefore, a fairly constant demand for women staff. The main conclusions of the Committee are as follows:—

“In making our investigations we have had in mind the criticisms which have appeared in the Press and elsewhere as to the suitability of canteen work for women. We are satisfied from what we have seen that these criticisms must be based on insufficient knowledge of the facts. The housing arrangements are both comfortable and healthy; there is ample opportunity for social activities; and the system of having a carefully selected manageress, usually responsible for six to eight girls, ensures kindly and understanding supervision. We can confidently state that the fear that has been expressed that girls who are away from home will be exposed to greater dangers than they would meet with in their own town is unfounded, and therefore we have no hesitation in recommending this work for young women who fulfil the requirements of the Navy, Army and Air Force Institutes.”

COMMITTEE ON REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

THE Minister of Health, in consultation with the Secretary of State for Scotland and the Minister of Transport, has appointed a Committee, under the chairmanship of Lord Chelmsford, to consider the reports issued by regional planning committees and to recommend—

(a) What schemes of work can be put in hand with due regard to the return to the community from the expenditure incurred, the need of pressing forward with the work as expeditiously as possible, and of avoiding the delay of other works now being or shortly to be executed; and

(b) What measures should be taken in order to secure that the works shall be speedily carried out, with an estimate of the probable cost of the several schemes, the economic return, and the amount of employment likely to be afforded by them.

The Secretary of the Committee is Mr. W. D. Wilkinson, D.S.O., M.C., to whom all communications should be addressed at 2, Whitehall Gardens, London, S.W. 1.

† Cmd. 3769. H.M. Stationery Office; price 2d. net.

NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR JUVENILE EMPLOYMENT.

A MEETING of the National Advisory Council for Juvenile Employment (England and Wales) was held on 10th February, 1931, at Montagu House, Whitehall, S.W.1. In the absence of Lord Shaftesbury, Sir Max Bonn took the Chair.

The Council reviewed the progress made in the establishment of courses of instruction for unemployed boys and girls during the year 1930. They noted that during the year 43 new Junior Instruction Centres and Classes had been established in England and Wales, and the proportion of juvenile claimants to unemployment benefit in attendance at these courses had more than doubled.

The Council recommended the Minister of Labour to issue a White Paper summarising the results of their recent inquiry into the prospective supply of juvenile labour during the years 1930–8.

The Council also recommended the issue of a letter by the Ministry to all Education Authorities on the question of providing instruction for boys and girls who were unable to find employment when they would normally have left school, and also for boys and girls with special educational or industrial qualifications.

The Council also considered a request which had been made to them by the Government that they should undertake an inquiry regarding the employment of young persons under the age of 18, in occupations whose hours of employment are not at present limited by statute. The Council decided to undertake such an inquiry, and appointed a Committee to look further into the subject.

MINING INDUSTRY (WELFARE FUND) BILL, 1931.

A BILL “to extend the period during which payments are to be made to the Fund constituted under Section 20 of the Mining Industry Act, 1920” was introduced in the House of Commons on 5th February.* The Bill extends by five years the period under which payments are to be made to the Miners’ Welfare Fund by coal owners. No change is proposed in the administration of the Fund.

CHARTS ILLUSTRATING THE COURSE OF TRADE, OUTPUT, PRICES, WAGES, FINANCE AND EMPLOYMENT.

THE present number of the MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE contains the usual quarterly Supplement comprising Charts illustrating the course of trade, output, prices, wages, finance and employment since 1924, together with Tables containing the statistics upon which the Charts have been based.

* House of Commons Bill 91. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net.

OUTPUT, COSTS AND PROCEEDS OF THE COAL-MINING INDUSTRY.

A STATISTICAL summary* of the output, and of the costs of production, proceeds and profits of the coal-mining industry for the quarter ended 30th September, 1930,† prepared by the Mines Department and based partly upon returns made for the purpose of wages ascertainment for certain districts and partly upon other returns supplied by individual colliery owners, shows that at undertakings which produced 54,249,688 tons of saleable coal, or about 96 per cent. of the total quantity raised in the quarter, 50,088,658 tons were disposable commercially.

The net costs, after deducting the proceeds of miners' coal, amounted to £34,989,781, equivalent to 13s. 11.65d. per ton. The proceeds of commercial disposals amounted to £34,489,219, equivalent to 13s. 9.25d. per ton. There was thus a debit balance of £500,562, or 2.40d. per ton. An analysis by districts shows that there were debit balances in six districts, ranging from 1.10d. per ton in Durham to 1s. 3.68d. in the Lancashire, Cheshire and North Staffordshire district. In three districts—Northumberland, South Wales and Monmouthshire, and South Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Cannock Chase and Warwickshire—there were credit balances of 1.70d., 3.94d. and 4.17d. per ton respectively.

The number of workpeople employed was 853,477, and the number of man-shifts worked was 50,842,988. The average output per man-shift worked was 21.34 cwt., and the average earnings per man-shift worked were 9s. 3.85d.

Information as to the value of allowances in kind is also given in the return, based, so far as Northumberland and Durham are concerned, on returns furnished for the purpose of the wages ascertainment, and, for other districts, on information supplied by the Mining Association of Great Britain. For Great Britain as a whole the average value of such allowances was 4.57d. per shift.

The following Table compares some of the more important figures with those in previous returns:—

Quarter ended	Proportion of Industry covered.	Amount of Saleable Coal raised.	Credit (+) or Debit (−) balance per ton.†	No. of Work-people employed.	Output per man-shift worked.	Earnings per man-shift worked.‡
1924.	Per cent.	Tons.	s. d.		Cwts.	s. d.
31st Mar.	94	67,047,657	+2 9.63	1,111,280	17.79	10 2.82
30th June	93	61,552,868	+1 0.34	1,107,457	17.48	10 11.17
30th Sept.	92	59,163,976	+0 0.26	1,082,340	17.33	10 10.24
31st Dec.	94	62,428,185	+0 7.61	1,078,758	17.74	10 7.04
1925.						
31st Mar.	94	62,458,898	+0 6.13	1,074,079	17.98	10 7.58
30th June	95	54,982,191	−0 11.81	1,032,216	17.85	10 6.77
30th Sept.	98	54,976,337	−0 2.82	1,013,757	17.88	10 4.85
31st Dec.	98	62,662,455	+1 6.70	1,041,997	18.31	10 5.14
1926.						
31st Mar.	99	66,071,166	+1 4.99	1,074,395	18.46	10 4.79
1927.						
31st Mar.	96	63,329,641	+1 2.41	969,943	20.66	10 7.12
30th June	96	58,880,719	−1 0.65	981,393	20.47	10 2.84
30th Sept.	96	58,585,249	−1 2.00	946,487	20.47	9 9.53
31st Dec.	96	60,350,401	−1 0.43	945,480	20.82	9 7.38
1928.						
31st Mar.	97	61,833,281	−0 9.34	921,448	21.24	9 5.02
30th June	97	55,034,291	−1 5.02	890,863	20.98	9 3.09
30th Sept.	96	53,552,053	−1 4.11	859,259	21.13	9 3.25
31st Dec.	96	59,099,369	−0 2.87	850,770	21.80	9 2.84
1929.						
31st Mar.	97	63,851,058	+0 9.15	880,941	22.13	9 2.69
30th June	96	59,422,734	−0 3.43	894,282	21.45	9 2.59
30th Sept.	97	60,497,604	−0 0.22	894,390	21.40	9 2.61
31st Dec.	97	64,872,965	+0 11.29	903,914	21.78	9 2.78
1930.						
31st Mar.	97	64,749,447	+1 1.37	911,218	21.94	9 3.25
30th June	96	55,850,573	−0 1.94	886,229	21.32	9 3.26
30th Sept.	96	54,249,688	−0 2.40	853,477	21.34	9 3.85

COAL MINES NATIONAL INDUSTRIAL BOARD.

THE North Staffordshire Miners' Federation referred to the Board under the provisions of Part IV of the Coal Mines Act, 1930, a dispute between the owners and workmen in the North Staffordshire district. An Agreement of 11th April, 1927, as to wages and working conditions in the coalfield was on the basis of an eight-hour day. This basis being altered by reason of Section 14 of the Coal Mines Act, 1930, differences arose as to the future regulation of wages and working conditions. The Board, under the Chairmanship of Sir Harold Morris, K.C., heard parties on 16th January, 1931, and issued their Report on 27th January, recommending that on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday the shift for underground workers should be seven hours and forty-eight minutes and on Saturday six hours; that the hours of surface workers should be adjusted accordingly; that the rates of wages, subsistence wages, customs and conditions of work in operation in November, 1930, should continue; and that these terms should continue to 31st March, 1931, and thereafter until altered by agreement between the parties.

* Cmd. 3754. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net.

† In the case of South Wales and Monmouthshire the period covered is the quarter ended 31st October, 1930.

‡ Calculated on the quantity of coal disposable commercially.

§ Excluding the value of allowances in kind.

|| After crediting subvention.

COAL MINING DISPUTE IN SOUTH WALES.

AN article relating to the dispute in the Monmouthshire and South Wales coalfield appeared in the January issue of this GAZETTE (see page 7). Proposed terms for the settlement of the dispute were drawn up at the Board of Trade on the night of Thursday, 15th January. These provisional terms, to be submitted by the owners' and workmen's representatives for the approval of their respective constituent organisations, were as follows:—

"(1) A new agreement to be drawn up embodying the terms and conditions of the memorandum of agreement dated 13th December, 1926, with the necessary amendments to meet the under-mentioned points agreed between the parties.

"(2) Work to be resumed at the rates of pay ruling in November, 1930. The hours of work of underground workers to be 7½ per day on each day of the week.

"(3) The agreements to remain in force until 31st January, 1934, and thereafter until the expiration of one month's notice of termination given in writing by either side.

"(4) The minimum percentage and subsistence wage to be considered immediately by the Joint Conciliation Board set up under the new agreement, and, failing agreement, to be submitted to the independent Chairman for his final decision. Such decision to be given before 28th February, 1931, and to become operative on and from 1st March, 1931.

"(5) Either party to the agreement to have the right to apply for a review of the minimum percentage under the procedure laid down in Clause 11 of the memorandum of agreement of 13th December, 1926, and of the subsistence wage under the procedure laid down in Clause 19 thereof on 31st December, 1931, on the same date each year during the currency of the agreement and before the coming into operation of any statutory change in the hours of work.

"(6) A new independent Chairman to be appointed under the procedure laid down in Clause 4 of the memorandum of agreement of 13th December, 1926, or by any other method which may be mutually agreed between the parties.

"(7) The Board shall consider any questions affecting the conditions of work that may be raised by either side, including any adjustment of the hours of work of surfacemen that may be consequent upon the reduction of hours of underground workers."

These terms were subsequently endorsed by the Owners' Association and by a Delegate Conference of the South Wales Miners' Federation, and there was a general resumption of work in the coalfield on Monday, 19th January. Since work was resumed, a joint sub-committee of the owners' and the workmen's representatives have held a number of meetings with a view to arranging the terms of a general agreement for the coalfield and, subject to the decision of the independent Chairman as to the amount of the minimum percentage on basis rates and the subsistence wage which are to operate from March 1st next, an agreement covering the working conditions in the coalfields was jointly signed on Monday, 9th February. This agreement will cover the next three years, with a provision as to any changes which may be necessary as the result of any further alteration in the hours of working during the period of the agreement.

BATHS AND DRYING ACCOMMODATION AT COLLIERIES.

THE Miners' Welfare Fund, established in 1920 under the Mining Industry Act of that year, permitted the application of grants from the Fund towards the provision of baths and drying accommodation at collieries; and the Coal Mines Act of 1926 imposed a 5 per cent. levy on coal royalties, to provide additional funds for this purpose. The revenue from the royalties levy is about £200,000 a year, to which the Miners' Welfare Committee add some £150,000 a year from their other resources.

Before embarking on the expenditure of this money, the Miners' Welfare Committee made extensive investigations both at home and abroad, and, as a preliminary to their main programme of construction, decided to proceed first with four experimental installations, to test and demonstrate the practicability of the special features at which they had decided to aim.

The Industrial Health Research Board have now issued a Report* on an investigation, conducted by two of their investigators, mainly for the assistance of the Miners' Welfare Committee during the erection of these first four installations. The results have been considered by the Committee as they became available; and many of the suggestions made by the investigators have been adopted in the construction of the buildings since put in hand as part of the main programme of the Miners' Welfare Committee.

It is stated in the Report that, at 1st November, 1930, the number of schemes completed or in hand was 79, accommodating nearly 100,000 men. The 30 schemes already in use are, it is stated, functioning very satisfactorily.

* The Atmospheric Conditions in Pithead Baths. Industrial Health Research Board: Report No. 60. H.M. Stationery Office; price 9d. net.

REGISTERED TRADE UNIONS.

MEMBERSHIP, INCOME, EXPENDITURE AND FUNDS, 1929.

SECTION II, Part 4, of the Report for 1930 of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies on trade unions has been published.*

The Report contains (i) a directory of registered trade unions, 1930, arranged in industrial groups; (ii) a table showing details of membership, income, expenditure and funds of registered trade unions with 10,000 or more members in the years 1928 and 1929; (iii) a list of trade unions, both registered and unregistered, having power to collect contributions from their members for expenditure on political objects; and (iv) a general summary of registered trade unions—number of unions, membership, income, expenditure, and funds—for the years 1920–1929.

Comparative figures for the years 1920 (when the aggregate membership of trade unions reached its highest point) and 1926–1929, extracted from this summary, are given below. The figures relate only to Great Britain, and include registered trade unions of employers, as well as of employees. Separate figures for the employers' associations are given in the second of the two tables which follow.

Registered Trade Unions in Great Britain.

	1920.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
Number of Unions on Register at end of Year	656	577	578	567	557
Membership at end of Year	6,982	4,192	3,947	3,809	3,827
Income—					
From Members	11,315	7,120	7,465	7,194	7,209
From Ministry of Labour (Unemployment Insurance and Administration Expenses) ...	312	4,542	2,096	2,063	1,876
From Other Sources	1,372†	2,282§	636	601	740
Expenditure—					
Unemployment, Travelling and Emigration Benefit†	1,718‡	6,377‡	3,131‡	3,234‡	2,853‡
Dispute Benefit	3,219	5,617	187	129	398
Sick and Accident Benefit	748	808	772	744	799
Funeral Benefit	297	318	340	328	372
Other Benefits, including Superannuation and Grants to Members	723	1,141	1,136	1,192	1,185
Payments from Political Fund... ..	185	108	135	119	180
Grants to Federations, Other Societies, etc.	1,687†	456	244	279	299
Management and Other Expenses	4,363	3,216	2,994	2,919	2,948
Total Funds—					
At beginning of Year	15,917	12,747	8,641	9,902	10,799
At end of Year	15,975†	8,650	9,899	10,817	11,590

In the following Table details are given of the aggregate membership, income, expenditure and funds in 1929 in each of a number of different groups of trade unions:—

Group.	Unions on the Register at end of 1929.	Membership at end of 1929.	Income.	Expenditure.		Funds at end of 1929.
				Unemployment, Travelling and Emigration Benefit.	Other Expenditure.	
Mining and Quarrying	100	1,000's. 563	£1,000's. 791	£1,000's. 76	£1,000's. 497	£1,000's. 716
Metals, Machines, Implements and Conveyances ...	72	605	2,510	906	1,429	3,041
Textiles	67	231	995	633	497	1,496
Clothing	13	139	458	295	174	531
Papermaking, Printing, etc.	20	119	605	122	355	795
Building, Decorating, etc.	28	307	1,203	520	670	802
Transport	26	535	1,088	15	832	2,094
Commerce and Finance	31	237	375	20	308	430
Other and General ...	115	1,043	1,657	266	1,296	1,456
Total of above	472	3,779	9,682	2,853	6,058	11,361
Registered Employers' Associations...	85	48	144	...	124	229
GRAND TOTAL	557	3,827	9,826	2,853	6,182	11,590

* H.M. Stationery Office; price 2s. net.

† The sum of £1,687,000 shown under "Grants to Federations, Other Societies, etc." in 1920, includes a substantial amount of funds transferred to the Amalgamated Engineering Union by certain unions which amalgamated to form that union in 1920, but not brought into account in the return of that union until 1921. The figures shown for 1920 under "Income from Other Sources" and "Total Funds at end of Year" are, accordingly, lower than would have been the case if these funds had been brought into account.

‡ The expenditure on Unemployment, Travelling and Emigration Benefit shown in this Table (e.g., £2,853,000 in 1929) represents the total amount paid by the unions, including, in addition to the benefit chargeable to the funds of the unions, the amounts disbursed by the unions and recoverable from the Ministry of Labour under the Unemployment Insurance Acts. The total amount receivable each year from the Ministry of Labour on this account and in respect of administration expenses (e.g., £1,876,000 in 1929) is shown under "Income."

§ Mainly grants received from the Miners' Federation of Great Britain, which is not a registered trade union.

SICKNESS AMONG COTTON CARDROOM OPERATIVES.

COTTON arrives in this country in closely pressed bales, and the first processes in its treatment are concerned with the opening out of the cotton into a loose state, in preparation for spinning; much dust is released in these processes.

For many years the representatives of the cotton cardroom operatives (the operatives engaged in these preparatory processes) have complained that these workers suffer acutely from respiratory diseases, as a result of the dusty atmosphere in which they work; and in 1927 the Home Secretary appointed a Departmental Committee to study the question. The Departmental Committee asked the Industrial Health Research Board to carry out a statistical investigation of the sickness rates of cardroom operatives; and the results of this investigation have been published.*

Information for the five years 1923–27 was gathered from the records of the Approved Society section of the Amalgamated Association of Card, Blowing and Ring-room Operatives. Of the male members of this Association three main groups were formed:—

(i) Strippers and grinders, and other cardroom workers, who are much exposed to dust;

(ii) Blowing-room hands and other preparatory workers, who are also engaged in cleaning the raw material, and are thereby exposed to dust, but not, it is believed, to the same extent as the first group; and

(iii) Cop packers and warehousemen and ring-room workers, who are relatively little exposed to dust.

It was found that the first group—the strippers and grinders and other cardroom workers—after the age of 30, experienced distinctly more sickness than the workers in the ring room and warehouse. The excess of sickness from all causes of illness experienced by the strippers and grinders and other cardroom workers, in comparison with the ring-room and warehouse workers, was due almost entirely to the high rates experienced by the cardroom operatives from respiratory causes.

The Report discusses the results of the investigation as it concerns women workers, and the general conclusion is that women workers in the cardroom have some excess of illness from respiratory causes, but that the excess is nothing like so marked as in the case of male operatives.

The interpretation of the results is complicated by the fact that, since 1912, locally applied exhaust ventilation has been generally installed to remove the dust generated during the "stripping" process (i.e., the removing of the dust and fibre caught in the wires of the carding machine).

There is no evidence of an excess of respiratory illness amongst the younger workers, but if some years' exposure to dust is necessary to produce respiratory illness of the type found to be excessive amongst the older workers, the statistics cannot prove whether modern conditions are detrimental to health or not, for at present there is no body of workers who have worked only under the modern conditions for a considerable number of years.

In the absence of positive evidence that the injurious effect upon health has changed with the change of environment, it is suggested in the Report that the reduction of the operatives' exposure to dust and fibre, to the maximum extent possible, is obviously desirable.

DEATHS OF SEAMEN IN 1929.

A RETURN† which has recently been issued by the Board of Trade shows the number of deaths, during 1929, among the crews of vessels registered under the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894.

The number of deaths among the crews of *steam and motor vessels* (other than fishing vessels) registered in the United Kingdom under Part I of the Merchant Shipping Act in the year 1929 was 1,098, distributed as shown in the following Table. The figures for 1928 are also given for comparison:—

Cause.	Deaths at Sea.		Deaths in River or Harbour.		Total.	
	1929.	1928.	1929.	1928.	1929.	1928.
Casualty to Vessel ...	117	167	20	23	137	190
Other Accidents:—						
On Board	118	95	109	101	227	196
Ashore	...	...	104	106	104	106
Disease	195	217	358	434	553	651
Homicide and Suicide ...	39	41	21	21	60	62
Total (including Lascars)	469	520	612	685	1,081	1,205
Lascars (included above)...	107	94	142	142	249	236

Among crews of *sailing vessels* (other than fishing vessels) the deaths totalled 17; of these 9 were due to casualties to vessels, 5 to other accidents, 2 to disease, and 1 to homicide or suicide.

The number of persons forming the first crews of vessels actually employed during the year was approximately 1,400 in sailing vessels and 239,400 in steam and motor vessels; of those in steam and motor vessels 162,800 were British subjects, 20,300 foreigners, and 56,300 Lascars (British subjects and foreigners).

Deaths among the crews of *fishing vessels* registered under Part IV of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894, totalled 95. Of these, 12 were due to casualties to vessels, 66 to other accidents, 16 to disease, and 1 to homicide or suicide.

* *Sickness among Operatives in Lancashire Cotton Spinning Mills (with special reference to the Cardroom)*. Industrial Health Research Board: Report No. 59. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1s. 6d. net.

† *Return of Shipping Casualties to and Deaths on Vessels registered in the United Kingdom*. H.M. Stationery Office; price 6d. net.

WAGES AND HOURS MOVEMENTS OVERSEAS.

GERMANY.

Metal and Engineering Industry.—The conciliation awards reported in the last issue of this GAZETTE providing for wage reductions in the Central Germany, South West Germany, Thuringia and Saxony tariff areas have been declared binding. The movement for the reduction of wages has been extended to other districts. In Württemberg two awards have been issued providing for (a) the extension of the existing general agreement with certain minor amendments, and (b) the reduction of wages until 30th June next by 4.4 per cent. A voluntary agreement was reached in the Cassel area for piece rates to be reduced by 6 per cent. and for the standard hourly rates of highly skilled workers to be reduced from 85 to 81 pfennigs, the hourly rates of other workers to be reduced by amounts varying from 3 to 4 per cent. For the Offenbach area an award has been issued the effect of which is to provide for a reduction of 5.7 per cent. in the collective agreement rates. An award for the Krefeld district provides for the standard wage rate (*Spitzenlohn*) to be fixed at 74 pfennigs for time workers and at 73 pfennigs for piece-workers. The supplementary allowances for time workers granted under the Severing award of 21st December, 1928 (see this GAZETTE for January, 1929, page 10), are to be abolished. A binding award for the Frankfurt-on-the-Main district effects a reduction of 5 pfennigs in the standard hourly rate now fixed at 84 pfennigs, and provides for a further reduction of 1 pfennig as from 7th April next. For the Hagen-Schwelm district an award provides for a wage reduction of 5 per cent. as from 23rd January last and for the existing covering agreement to be extended until 30th June, 1931. A wage reduction of 5 per cent. has been agreed upon by the employers and workers in the Düren area. In Solingen a reduction in wages of about 5 per cent. is provided for under a conciliation award, while a further award applicable to homeworkers in the Solingen steel industry provides for a reduction of 6 per cent. as from 1st February last in the wages of workers engaged in the manufacture of stainless steel goods. Under a binding award the wages of workers in the Bergedorf metal and engineering and iron and steel industry were reduced by 6 per cent. as from 1st February until 30th June next. The workers and employers in the Berlin metal foundries have agreed upon a reduction of wages by $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. as from 19th January last and by a further $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. as from 2nd March next. Special agreements have been reached regarding earnings in excess of the collective agreement rates.

Textile Industry.—An award for the Krefeld silk industry provides for wages to be reduced by 6 per cent. until 15th April next at the earliest. In Northern Bavaria the employers are contesting an award under which time rates are to be reduced by 2 per cent. and piece rates by 4 per cent. until 2nd January, 1932. A binding award for the Württemberg area effects a reduction in wages of 4.4 per cent. A reduction of 5.8 per cent. until 15th August next for the Gladbach-Rheydt district is provided for under a conciliation award. The workers (numbering 25,000) in the Saxony-Thuringia weaving mills have rejected an award providing for reductions in wages varying from 6.1 to 6.4 per cent. as from 12th February. Under a binding award affecting 45,000 workers in the textile area on the right bank of the Rhine the standard wage is to be reduced from 69 to 64 pfennigs for male workers and from 52.5 to 49 pfennigs for female workers.

Coal-mining industry.—A binding award for the Upper Silesian area provides for wages to be reduced by 6 per cent. and for the extension of the existing covering and hours' agreements. In Lower Silesia an award provides for a wage-cut of 5 per cent.

BELGIUM.

Coal Mining Industry.—The National Joint Commission for the Mining Industry agreed to reduce the wages of coal miners in Belgium by 5 per cent. as from 1st February, 1931, in accordance with the collective agreement which provides for variations in wages to correspond with changes in the cost of living index figure. The employers' representatives also demanded an additional 5 per cent. reduction in wages. This was rejected by the workers' representatives, and the Commission is to consider the matter at a later date.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION.

RATIFICATION OF TWO SICKNESS INSURANCE CONVENTIONS BY H.M. GOVERNMENT.

THE *London Gazette* for 16th January, 1931, contains the text of an Order of the Privy Council, dated 5th January, 1931, stating that the draft Conventions* concerning (i) *sickness insurance for workers in industry and commerce, and domestic servants*, and (ii) *sickness insurance for agricultural workers*, adopted by the International Labour Conference at Geneva on 15th June, 1927, had, in respect of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, obtained the consent of the authority or authorities within whose competence the matter lies, and that such action as is necessary to make the provisions of the said draft Conventions effective therein had been taken.

They therefore order that the said draft Conventions be confirmed and approved, and that formal communication thereof be made to the Secretary-General of the League of Nations.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN GERMANY: ADVISORY COMMISSION.

THE German Government have set up an Advisory Commission on Unemployment, which, according to a recent statement in the Reichstag by the Federal Chancellor, Dr. Brüning, is to study the problem of unemployment in all its aspects and to submit proposals to the Government. The Commission, which is under the chairmanship of Dr. Brauns, a former Federal Minister of Labour, is composed of a number of economists and authorities in matters affecting the labour market; neither employers nor workers are directly represented. The Commission was to draw up its own programme and settle its own procedure.

At the inaugural meeting of the Commission on 5th February, the Commission agreed upon a provisional programme covering the following points:—

- (1) the productive organisation of unemployment relief;
- (2) the distribution of work in accordance with considerations of labour market policy (placing of labour, reduction of working hours, workers with more than one occupation, extension of the school-leaving age, etc.);
- (3) prices and wages policy in relation to their effect on the labour market;
- (4) the labour market and agriculture; unemployment and home colonisation;
- (5) duty work (*Pflichtarbeit*); labour conscription; voluntary labour service; the provision of work;
- (6) the direct relief of unemployment: the unemployment insurance, emergency benefit and poor relief systems; their conditions and limits, benefits, organisation and inter-relationship.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA: UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF.

THE Unemployment Relief Council Act, 1930, assented to on 12th November, 1930, provides for the establishment of a Council for the purpose of devising and carrying into execution proposals for the relief of unemployment. The Council consists of five members appointed by the Governor, and is subject to the control and directions of the Minister of Labour and Employment. It is empowered to make any arrangements it thinks proper for assisting persons to obtain employment or for providing employment or for raising money for the relief of unemployed persons or for providing them with the necessities of life; and to expend on their behalf such moneys as are paid to it by the Treasurer of the State. It may also, on the authorisation of the Governor, exercise in relation to destitute and necessitous persons whose condition is due wholly or mainly to unemployment the powers of the Children's Welfare and Public Relief Board under the Maintenance Act, 1926, and may take steps to co-ordinate the activities of persons, associations and Government Departments affording relief to unemployed persons, or delegate any of its powers to any Municipal or District Council, person or association.

The provision of relief is conditional upon the performance of work, except in cases where a person is certified as incapable of work, or where the Unemployment Relief Council or Public Relief Board is unable to provide it.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS.

REPORT BY INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE.

THE International Labour Office has recently published, under the title "Studies on Industrial Relations,"* the first of a proposed series of monographs on this subject. The main purpose of the series is to show the development of relations between employers and workers, both in the works and in collective negotiations between representative organisations, by setting out the actual experience of individual firms in various countries in which efforts are being made to attain satisfactory industrial co-operation.

While the undertakings selected for study are generally recognised as successful representatives of their respective industries and countries, they have been chosen rather as illustrations than as models. The countries concerned in the present volume are Germany, France, Great Britain, the Saar Territory and Czechoslovakia, and the undertakings studied are the Siemens works, the Lens Mining Company, the London Traffic Combine, the State Mines of the Saar basin, and the Bata boot and shoe factory.

In each case the study, after a brief historical introduction, analyses the organisation, administration and functioning of the machinery of industrial relations, including the internal organisation of the industrial relations department of the particular firm, its relations with employers' organisations and trade unions, and the operation of its works councils or other bodies. Full information is given with regard to systems of training, apprenticeship and education; pension schemes, profit-sharing and co-partnership, insurance and savings; methods of accident prevention; health provisions and other forms of welfare activities. Special attention is paid to the extent to which the active collaboration of management and workers is involved in the organisation and functioning of the various schemes.

* *Studies and Reports, Series A (Industrial Relations)*, No. 33. Published in the United Kingdom for the International Labour Office by P. S. King and Son, Ltd., Orchard House, 14, Great Smith Street, London, S.W. 1. Price 5s.

* The text of these two draft Conventions has been published in Cmd. 2961. (H.M. Stationery Office; price 9d. net.)

EMPLOYMENT IN JANUARY.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

THERE was some fluctuation in the course of employment during January, but at the end of the month the numbers unemployed showed a net decrease as compared with the end of December, 1930, although they remained higher than immediately before Christmas.

Increases in the numbers unemployed occurred in a large number of industries, of which the principal included building and public works contracting with the manufacture of bricks, tiles and cement; the glass industries; engineering; shipbuilding and ship repairing; the manufacture of metal goods; the woollen, worsted, jute, hosiery, lace and carpet industries; textile bleaching, dyeing and finishing; the clothing industries, except hat and cap manufacture; the woodworking and furnishing trades; and the transport and distributive trades.

There was an improvement, however, in the manufacture of pottery, steel, and tinplates; and in the motor vehicle, artificial silk yarn, linen, hat and cap, boot and shoe, and paper and paper board industries.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

Among the workpeople, numbering approximately 12,400,000, insured against unemployment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and working in practically every industry except agriculture and private domestic service, the percentage unemployed at 26th January, 1931 (including those temporarily stopped as well as those wholly unemployed) was 21.5, as compared with 20.2 at 22nd December, 1930, and with 12.4 at 27th January, 1930. The percentage wholly unemployed at 26th January, 1931, was 16.5, as compared with 14.9 at 22nd December, 1930; while the percentage temporarily stopped was 5.0, as compared with 5.3. For males alone the percentage at 26th January, 1931, was 22.1, and for females 19.9; at 22nd December, 1930, the corresponding percentages were 20.7 and 18.8.

At 26th January, 1931, the number of persons on the Registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain were 1,875,330 wholly unemployed, 607,443 temporarily stopped, and 109,877 normally in casual employment, making a total of 2,592,650. This was 50,477 less than a month before, but 1,101,131 more than a year before. The total included 1,850,797 men, 74,176 boys, 600,179 women and 67,498 girls.

The 1,875,330 wholly unemployed included approximately 1,313,000 insured persons who had paid at least 30 contributions during the preceding two years, and therefore satisfied the full contributions condition for the receipt of unemployment benefit; 455,500 insured persons who had paid less than 30 contributions during the preceding two years; and 106,830 uninsured persons. The wholly unemployed claimants for benefit, numbering 1,697,928, included 254,645 men, 7,056 boys, 54,939 women, and 4,616 girls who had been on the register for less than one month.

In Great Britain and Northern Ireland the total number of persons on the Registers of Employment Exchanges at 26th January, 1931, was 2,671,213.

Mining and Quarrying.—Employment in the coal-mining industry showed little change and continued bad. A dispute lasting from 1st to 17th January, inclusive, occurred in the South Wales coalfield, but on the 19th January there was a general resumption of work. The total number of wage earners on the colliery books at 24th January, 1931, showed a decrease of 0.5 per cent. as compared with 20th December, 1930, and of 7.6 per cent. as compared with 25th January, 1930. The average number of days worked per week in the fortnight ended 24th January, 1931, was 4.75, a decrease of 0.53 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 20th December, 1930, and of 0.51 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 25th January, 1930.

In the iron mining industry employment remained bad. In the West Lothian shale mines there was a decrease of 0.8 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed at the mines from which returns were received as compared with December, 1930, but an increase of 1.0 per cent. as compared with January, 1930. In the limestone quarries in the Weardale area employment remained slack; in the Clitheroe area it was steady; in the Buxton area it was still bad. In the slate quarries in North Wales employment was fair and less short time was worked. In the East of Scotland whinstone quarries employment was good in the dressed stone section, and fair in the metal and chippings section. At chalk quarries employment remained slack. At tin mines and china clay quarries it declined and was very slack.

Pig Iron, Iron and Steel and Tinplate.—In the pig iron industry employment remained very bad. Of 394 furnaces, the number in blast at the end of January was 83, as compared with 76 at the end of December, 1930, and 159 at the end of January, 1930.

At iron and steel works employment showed an improvement but remained very bad.

In the tinplate industry employment showed an improvement but remained very bad. In the week ended 31st January, 1931, 291 tinplate mills were in operation at works for which information is available, as compared with 282 in the week ended 20th December, 1930, and with 388 in the week ended 1st February, 1930. In steel sheet manufacture employment showed a decline and was bad. In the week ended 31st January, 1931, 52 mills were in operation, as compared with 64 in the week ended 20th December, 1930, and with 100 in the week ended 1st February, 1930.

Engineering, Shipbuilding and Metal Industries.—In engineering employment remained bad and showed a decline in all sections except the motor vehicle section, in which there was some improvement. In electrical engineering, though considerable decline was shown, employment was still relatively moderate; in motor vehicle engineering it was slack; in general, marine, and constructional engineering it was bad or very bad.

In shipbuilding and ship-repairing employment remained very bad and showed a further decline, on the whole.

In the other metal trades employment continued slack on the whole. It was moderate in the hollow-ware and nut and bolt trades; slack in the sheet metal, tube, brasswork, file, edge tool, wire manufacturing, metallic bedstead, stove and grate, needle and fishing tackle, chain and anchor, and jewellery and plated ware trades; and bad in the cutlery trade.

Textile Industries.—The dispute in the weaving department of the cotton industry, which began on 5th January, gradually disorganised employment in all departments. At the end of January the majority of the weaving sheds were entirely closed down; a considerable number of spinning mills were also at a standstill, and others were curtailing production owing to the great reduction in the demand for yarn.

In the wool textile industry employment declined and was very depressed both in the woollen and in the worsted sections. The decline was shown in all departments and in practically all districts. In the carpet trade employment declined and was very slack.

Employment in the hosiery industry showed a further decline and was bad on the whole; in the lace trade employment remained bad on the whole, though in the curtain section at Nottingham it was fair. In silk manufacture and artificial silk weaving it showed little change and was slack on the whole, but in the manufacture of artificial silk yarn it showed a marked improvement. In the jute trade employment showed a marked decline and was very bad; in the linen trade it showed an improvement but was still bad. In the textile bleaching, printing, dyeing, etc., trades employment declined and remained very bad, with much short-time working.

Clothing Industries.—Employment in the retail bespoke and ready-made and wholesale bespoke branches of the tailoring trade was very slack, with short-time working at many centres. In the dress-making and millinery trades employment was moderate. In the shirt and collar, glove, and corset trades it was slack. In felt hat manufacture employment showed an improvement and was moderate.

In the boot and shoe industry employment was bad generally at the beginning of the month, and, notwithstanding a slight improvement in some districts, it remained bad on the whole throughout the month. At Leicester employment was slack generally, at Northampton employment continued bad.

Leather Trades.—Employment in the leather trades showed a further decline and was slack in all sections.

Building, Woodworking, etc.—In the building trades there was a further decline and employment was very slack or bad in most districts. Adverse weather conditions were again responsible for an appreciable amount of lost time on outside work. As regards individual occupations, employment with bricklayers, masons and plumbers declined and was very slack, on the whole; it also declined with slaters, plasterers and carpenters, and was bad in most districts. With painters employment showed a further decline and was very bad; with tradesmen's labourers it was very slack. In brick manufacture employment showed a slight decline and was slack on the whole.

Employment in the furnishing trades and with mill-sawyers showed a decline and was slack, and it continued slack with coach-builders.

Paper Manufacture.—In the paper making industry employment continued moderate on the whole and showed a slight improvement. Short time continued in a number of districts, and employment was generally slack in the hand-made section. With letterpress printers employment showed a further slight decline but continued moderate. Employment was again reported as bad in London, though slightly better than in December, and was also bad at Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, Leeds, Bristol and Glasgow; it was fairly good, however, at some of the smaller centres. With electrotypers and stereotypers employment was generally moderate to fair. It was reported as good at Birmingham and Glasgow, but bad at Manchester. With lithographic printers employment showed a further decline and short time prevailed at many centres; it was described as bad in many of the larger towns, including London, Birmingham, Liverpool, Manchester, Bristol and Glasgow, but in some of the smaller centres employment was fair. With lithographic artists employment was moderate on the whole; it was slack and worse than in the previous month in London and at Manchester, but showed an improvement at Leeds and Nottingham. With bookbinders employment generally remained moderate.

Pottery and Glass.—In the pottery industry employment in North Staffordshire showed a slight improvement but remained bad, on the whole, with much short-time working. Short-time working also continued at Derby, Worcester and Bristol. In the stoneware section in Scotland employment remained bad.

In the glass trades employment showed a decline, and remained bad in the bottle-making section and slack in other sections.

Agriculture and Fishing.—In agriculture the supply of labour was sufficient for requirements. With fishermen employment was bad on the whole.

Dock Labourers and Seamen.—Employment with dock labourers showed a decline and continued very slack. With seamen employment was very slack, on the whole.

SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

In Tables which appear on subsequent pages of this GAZETTE detailed statistics bearing on the state of employment during December are given, based on information obtained from employers or employers' associations in certain industries. In the following Tables some of the principal features of these statistics are briefly

summarised (a) for certain mining and metal industries and (b) for various other industries :—

(a) CERTAIN MINING AND METAL INDUSTRIES.

Industry.	Workpeople included in the Returns for January, 1931.	January, 1931.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
		Month before.		Year before.	
		Days Worked per week by Mines.		Days.	
Coal Mining ...	882,240	4.75		- 0.5	
Iron „ ...	6,608	4.84		- 0.41	
Shale „ ...	2,561	5.93		...	
		Furnaces in Blast.		Number.	
Pig Iron ...	...	83		+ 7	
		Mills working.		-	
Tinplate and Steel Sheet	...	343		- 3	
		Shifts Worked (one week).		Per cent.	
Iron and Steel ...	51,416	260,467		- 4.0	

(b) OTHER INDUSTRIES.

Industry.	Number of Workpeople Employed.			Total Wages Paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 24th Jan., 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th Jan., 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
Textiles :—		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Cotton ...	46,676	- 18.5	- 33.6	68,083	- 23.6	- 42.6
Woollen ...	52,129	- 3.7	- 10.9	91,574	- 8.6	- 20.0*
Worsted ...	75,205	- 3.1	- 7.9	125,885	- 8.4	- 17.6*
Carpet ...	9,799	- 2.7	- 8.6	14,771	- 13.6	- 24.7
Boot and Shoe ...	59,331	+ 1.3	- 3.7	124,812	- 0.4	- 10.5
Pottery ...	9,444	+ 1.1	- 12.9	15,503	- 2.5	- 18.3
Brick ...	9,523	- 2.2	- 11.4	24,457	+ 0.5	- 14.4

UNEMPLOYMENT SUMMARY BY DISTRICTS.

The following Table shows the variations in the rates of unemployment at 26th January, 1931, among insured persons in the respective divisions into which the country is divided for the purpose of the administration of the Unemployment Insurance Acts :—

Divisions.	Estimated Numbers Insured, aged 16-64 inclusive, at July, 1930.	Percentage Unemployed at 26th January, 1931.			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Total Percentages as compared with a	
		Males.	Females.	Total.	Month before.	Year before.
London ...	2,255,620	14.0	8.5	12.2	+ 2.4	+ 4.8
South-Eastern ...	929,770	14.0	9.9	13.1	+ 2.0	+ 4.9
South-Western ...	864,400	16.1	11.7	15.1	+ 1.9	+ 5.2
Midlands ...	1,847,230	18.8	20.8	19.4	+ 0.8	+ 8.6
North-Eastern ...	2,020,760	26.9	23.1	26.0	+ 1.5	+ 10.1
North-Western ...	2,181,890	28.4	32.2	29.7	+ 0.4	+ 13.1
Scotland ...	1,307,810	27.4	21.3	25.7	+ 2.2	+ 11.7
Wales ...	592,520	31.9	19.8	30.6	- 0.6	+ 10.9
Northern Ireland	266,000	30.1	32.2	30.9	- 2.5	+ 13.7
Special Schemes	139,700	3.8	0.9	2.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.9
Total ...	12,405,700	22.1	19.9	21.5	+ 1.3	+ 9.1

UNEMPLOYMENT DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS.

The following Table shows, month by month from January, 1930, the percentages unemployed among insured workpeople, and the approximate number of applicants for employment registered at Employment Exchanges, etc., in Great Britain and Northern Ireland :—

Percentages Unemployed among Insured Workpeople.						Numbers (Insured and Uninsured) registered at Employment Exchanges, etc.	
Date.	Males.	Females.	Males and Females.			Date.	Number.
			Wholly Unemployed and Casuals.	Temporarily stopped.	Total.		
1930.						1930.	
27 January...	13.3	10.2	9.7	2.7	12.4	27 Jan.	1,534,000
24 February...	13.7	11.0	9.9	3.0	12.9	24 Feb.	1,582,000
24 March ...	14.2	12.4	10.4	3.3	13.7	31 Mar.	1,731,000
28 April ...	14.6	13.3	10.6	3.6	14.2	28 Apr.	1,752,000
26 May ...	15.2	14.4	10.8	4.2	15.0	26 May	1,823,000
23 June ...	15.6	14.6	10.8	4.6	15.4	30 June	1,947,000
21 July ...	17.0	15.8	11.3	5.4	16.7	28 July	2,072,000
25 August ...	17.3	16.5	12.1	5.0	17.1	25 Aug.	2,106,000
22 September	18.0	16.8	12.7	4.9	17.6	29 Sept.	2,230,000
27 October...	19.4	16.8	13.9	4.8	18.7	27 Oct.	2,308,000
24 November	19.8	17.2	14.8	4.3	19.1	24 Nov.	2,359,000
22 December	20.7	18.8	14.9	5.3	20.2	29 Dec.	2,725,000
1931.						1931.	
26 January...	22.1	19.9	16.5	5.0	21.5	26 Jan.	2,671,000

* Comparison of earnings is affected by reductions in rates in wages.

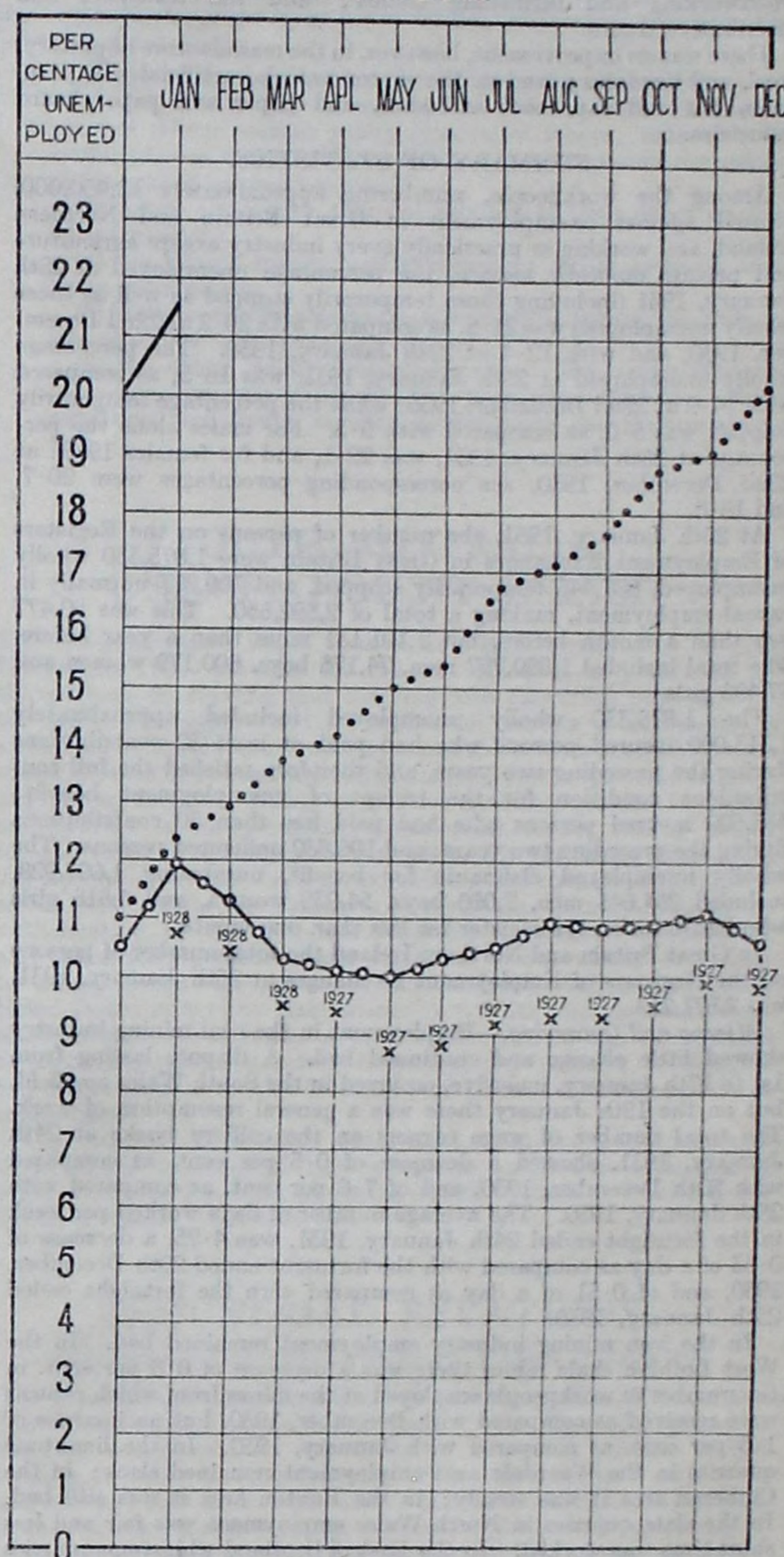
UNEMPLOYMENT CHART.

GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.

PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AMONG WORKPEOPLE INSURED AGAINST UNEMPLOYMENT IN GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND :—

Plain Curve - - - - - = 1931.
Dotted Curve - - - - - = 1930.
Chain Curve - - - - - = { Mean for 1923-25 and 1927-29.

× The crosses indicate the minimum monthly percentages unemployed during the years 1923-25 and 1927-30. The maximum percentages in February to December of those years occurred in 1930. In January the maximum percentage of 13.3 occurred in 1923.



NEW ENTRANTS INTO UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

APPLICATIONS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT BOOKS RECEIVED AT LOCAL OFFICES OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR IN GREAT BRITAIN DURING JANUARY, 1931.

Area.	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	Total.	
					Number.	Percentage of Numbers Insured at July, 1930.
London ...	1,103	5,906	2,008	5,230	14,247	0.63
South-Eastern ..	1,728	2,730	690	1,873	7,021	0.76
South-Western ...	972	2,433	555	1,667	5,627	0.65
Midlands ...	935	4,683	500	3,763	9,881	0.53
North-Eastern ...	1,078	5,165	818	3,160	10,221	0.51
North-Western ...	929	4,330	697	3,738	9,694	0.44
Scotland ...	745	2,923	574	2,340	6,582	0.50
Wales... ..	559	1,711	290	519	3,079	0.52
GREAT BRITAIN ...	8,049	29,881	6,132	22,290	66,352	0.55

The above figures are exclusive of cases in which, as the result of systematic search, duplication of applications has been discovered.

DETAILED REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN SOME OF THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

NOTE.—The numbers of workpeople employed given in the following Tables represent the numbers covered by the Returns received and not the total numbers employed in the various industries. In the comparisons of numbers employed and wages paid at different dates the figures relate to the same firms at each date, and cover all the wage-earners, irrespective of age, sex, or occupation, employed by these firms. In comparing the earnings in different industries, it should be remembered that any averages calculated from these figures will be affected not only by the variations in the state of employment and in rates of wages, but also by differences in the proportions of males to females, of adults to juveniles, and of skilled to unskilled workers in the respective industries.

COAL MINING.

EMPLOYMENT during January continued bad and showed little change on the whole, as compared with the previous month. A dispute lasting from 1st to 17th January, inclusive, occurred in the South Wales coalfield, but on the 19th January there was a general resumption of work.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 19.5 at 26th January, 1931, as compared with 19.7 at 22nd December, 1930, and 12.9 at 27th January, 1930. The percentage wholly unemployed increased by 0.3 from 15.8 to 16.1, but the percentage temporarily stopped decreased by 0.5 from 3.9 to 3.4.

The total number of wage earners on the colliery books at 24th January, 1931, showed a decrease of 0.5 per cent. as compared with 20th December, 1930, and of 7.6 per cent. as compared with 25th January, 1930.

The average number of days worked per week in the fortnight ended 24th January, 1931, was 4.75, a decrease of 0.53 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 20th December, 1930, and of 0.51 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 25th January, 1930.

The following Table shows, for the principal coalmining districts, the total number of wage earners on the colliery books and the average number of days worked per week* during the fortnight ended 24th January, 1931, as shown by returns obtained by the Mines Department. Small numbers of workpeople employed at coal mines in raising or handling minerals other than coal are included in the totals.

Districts.	Total Number of Wage Earners on Colliery Books at		Average Number of Days worked per week* by the Mines.			
	24th Jan., 1931.	Inc.(+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	Fortnight ended 24th Jan., 1931.	Inc.(+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	Month before.	Year before.
ENGLAND AND WALES:		Per cent	Per cent	Days.	Days.	Days.
Northumberland ...	45,048	-0.2	-8.5	5.41	-0.06	-0.12
Durham ...	119,873	+0.1	-15.5	5.33	-0.01	-0.07
Cumberland and Westmorland ...	9,378	+1.3	-6.7	5.46	-0.10	-0.04
South Yorkshire ...	115,163	+0.0	-2.2	4.99	-0.13	-0.31
West Yorkshire ...	51,008	+0.1	-4.2	4.97	-0.22	+0.42
Lancs. and Cheshire ...	73,429	-0.1	-3.4	4.88	-0.31	-0.02
Derbyshire ...	54,578	+0.1	-2.3	5.17	+0.12	+0.57
Notts. and Leicester ...	62,577	+0.0	-0.1	4.95	+0.13	+0.45
Warwick ...	17,144	+0.0	+0.6	5.20	-0.46	-0.19
North Staffordshire ...	24,611	+1.1	-14.5	4.64	-0.14	-0.32
South Staffs., Worcs. and Salop ...	29,951	-0.3	-4.0	5.25	-0.40	+0.47
Glos. and Somerset ...	9,657	-0.9	-7.2	5.57	...	+0.37
Kent ...	5,339	+0.4	+13.7	5.32	+0.15	-0.12
North Wales ...	14,166	-1.0	-3.8	5.48	-0.27	-0.08
South Wales and Mon.	158,268	-2.1	-12.2	2.95	-2.45	-2.74
England and Wales	790,190	-0.4	-7.4	4.68	-0.58	-0.53
SCOTLAND:						
Mid. & East Lothians	13,095	-0.9	-2.9	5.38	-0.14	-0.30
Fife and Clackmannan	21,518	-2.9	-9.6	5.27	-0.05	-0.27
Rest of Scotland ...	57,437	-0.9	-10.0	5.39	-0.08	-0.42
Scotland ...	92,050	-1.4	-8.9	5.36	-0.09	-0.37
GREAT BRITAIN	882,240	-0.5	-7.6	4.75	-0.53	-0.51

The average number of coal-winding days lost in Great Britain during the fortnight ended 24th January, 1931, was 0.99 of a day per week, of which 0.45 of a day was due to want of trade and transport difficulties and 0.52 of a day to trade disputes. The figures for the fortnight ended 20th December, 1930, were 0.44 of a day per week, of which 0.41 of a day was due to want of trade and transport difficulties; the corresponding figures for the fortnight ended 25th January, 1930, were 0.52 of a day per week, and 0.49 of a day per week, respectively. The average non-winding time for the January, 1931, and December, 1930, periods, was between one-quarter and one-third of a day per week, as compared with about one-fifth of a day per week during the January, 1930, period.

The output of coal in Great Britain for the four weeks ended 24th January, 1931, was reported to the Mines Department as 17,049,900 tons, as compared with 20,270,000 tons in the four weeks ended 20th December, 1930, and 21,087,200 tons in the four weeks ended 25th January, 1930.

* The figures in this and the following article show the number of days (allowance being made in all the calculations for short time) on which coal, iron, etc., were got from the mines included in the returns. It is not necessarily implied that all the persons worked every day the mines were open. Mines not working are omitted in computing the average number of days worked.

† Including Cannock Chase.

The numbers and percentages unemployed among insured workpeople in the respective areas at 26th January, 1931, and the increases or decreases as compared with 22nd December, 1930, and 27th January 1930, are shown in the following Table.

Area.	Insured Persons Recorded as Unemployed at 26th January, 1931.					Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Total percentages as compared with a	
	Numbers.		Percentages.			Month before.	Year before.
	Wholly Unemployed (incl. Casuals).	Temporary stoppages.	Wholly Unemployed.	Temporary stoppages.	Total.		
Great Britain ...	172,044	36,711	16.1	3.4	19.5	-0.2	+6.6
England and Wales ...	147,525	34,803	15.6	3.6	19.2	-0.4	+6.3
Scotland ...	24,519	1,908	20.2	1.5	21.7	+0.9	+9.2
Principal Districts in England and Wales:—							
Northumberland ...	8,122	180	15.6	0.4	16.0	+0.3	+5.7
Durham ...	33,970	1,364	22.1	0.9	23.0	-0.1	+12.5
Cumberland and Westmorland ...	2,350	403	19.9	3.4	23.3	-9.9	+5.8
Yorkshire ...	18,748	10,480	10.5	5.9	16.4	-0.2	+4.8
Lancashire and Cheshire ...	13,932	3,957	15.3	4.4	19.7	...	+3.0
Derbyshire ...	4,192	1,307	6.7	2.0	8.7	-1.3	-2.4
Notts. and Leicestershire	3,878	5,164	5.8	7.8	13.6	+2.4	+2.2
Warwickshire	691	44	5.7	0.3	6.0	+0.2	+0.1
Staffs., Worcester and Salop ...	8,898	3,087	12.6	4.3	16.9	-1.1	+6.0
Glos. and Somerset ...	1,812	96	15.3	0.8	16.1	+1.2	+1.2
Kent ...	259	49	4.9	0.9	5.8	-23.4	+2.5
Wales and Monmouth ...	49,177	8,662	21.4	3.7	25.1	-0.4	+9.0

The exports of coal, including that shipped for the use of steamers engaged in the foreign trade and the coal equivalent of coke and manufactured fuel, amounted to 4,884,900 tons in January, 1931, as compared with 5,982,200 tons in December, 1930, and with 7,361,400 tons in January, 1930.

IRON AND SHALE MINING.

IRON MINING.

EMPLOYMENT remained bad during January.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, in the iron ore and ironstone mining industry was 32.7 at 26th January, 1931, as compared with 35.2 at 22nd December, 1930, and 8.9 at 27th January, 1930.

The following Table summarises the information received from employers who furnished returns for the three periods:—

Districts.	Number of Workpeople employed at Mines included in the Returns.		Average No. of Days worked per week* by the Mines.			
	Fortnight ended 24th Jan., 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	Fortnight ended 24th Jan., 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	Month before.	Year before.
			Per cent.	Per cent.	Days.	Days.
Cleveland ...	2,980	-0.1	-31.7		4.39	-0.52
Cumberland and Lancashire ...	2,262	+12.6	-28.8		5.46	-0.54
Other Districts ...	1,366	-5.7	-11.8		4.77	-0.12
ALL DISTRICTS	6,608	+2.6	-27.3		4.84	-0.41

SHALE MINING.

THE number of workpeople employed at the West Lothian mines during the fortnight ended 24th January, 1931, by firms making returns, was 2,561, showing a decrease of 0.8 per cent. as compared with December, 1930, but an increase of 1.0 per cent. as compared with January, 1930. The average number of days worked per week* in the period by the mines making returns was 5.93 in January, 1931, as compared with 5.93 in December, 1930, and 5.96 in January, 1930.

* See footnote * in previous column.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT remained very bad during January. The percentage of insured persons unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 36.3 at 26th January, 1931, as compared with 35.7 at 22nd December, 1930, and 12.0 at 27th January, 1930.

According to returns received by the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, 83 furnaces were in operation at the end of January, 1931, compared with 76 at the end of December, 1930, and 159 at the end of January, 1930.

Returns received from 69 firms, employing 12,436 workpeople at the end of January, 1931, showed an increase of 6.5 per cent. compared with December, 1930, but a decrease of 38.7 per cent. compared with January, 1930.

The following Table shows the number of furnaces in operation at the end of January, 1931, December, 1930, and January, 1930.

Districts.	Total Number of Furnaces.	Number of Furnaces in Blast.			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Jan., 1931.	Dec., 1930.	Jan., 1930.	Month before.	Year before.
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
Durham and Cleveland	93	23	24	42	- 1	-19
Cumberland and W. Lancs.	43	8	6	12	+ 2	- 4
Parts of Lancs. and Yorks. (including Sheffield) and North Wales ...	26	5	4	12	+ 1	- 7
Derby, Leicester, Notts. and Northants ...	53	22	22	30	...	- 8
Lincolnshire	25	8	7	16	+ 1	- 8
Staffs., Shropshire, Worcester and War- wick	44	6	6	14	...	- 8
South Wales and Mon- mouthshire	21	2	2	9	...	- 7
Total, England and Wales	305	74	71	135	+ 3	-61
SCOTLAND	89	9	5	24	+ 4	-15
Total	394	83	76	159	+ 7	-76

The production of pig iron in January, 1931, amounted to 337,200 tons, compared with 349,800 tons in December, 1930, and 650,000 tons in January, 1930.

TINPLATE AND STEEL SHEET INDUSTRIES.

In the tinplate industry, employment showed an improvement but remained very bad. In the week ended 31st January, 1931, 291 tinplate mills were in operation at works for which information is available, as compared with 282 in the week ended 20th December, 1930, and with 388 in the week ended 1st February, 1930.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 45.4 at 26th January, 1931, as compared with 70.2 at 22nd December, 1930, and with 27.7 at 27th January, 1930.

In steel sheet manufacture employment showed a decline and was bad. In the week ended 31st January, 1931, 52 mills were in operation, as compared with 64 in the week ended 20th December, 1930, and with 100 in the week ended 1st February, 1930.

The following Table shows the number of mills in operation at works covered by the returns :—

Works.	Number of Works Open.			Number of Mills in Operation.		
	Week ended 31st Jan., 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 31st Jan., 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
Tinplate ...	54	- 1	- 13	291	+ 9	- 97
Steel Sheet	5	- 1	- 4	52	- 12	- 48
TOTAL ...	59	- 2	- 17	343	- 3	-145

The exports of tinned and galvanised plates and sheets in January, 1931, amounted to 53,143 tons, or 3,000 tons more than in December, 1930, but 43,338 tons less than in January, 1930.

IRON AND STEEL MANUFACTURE.

EMPLOYMENT in January remained very bad, but showed a slight improvement as compared with the previous month. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 45.2 at 26th January, 1931, as compared with 50.6 at 22nd December, 1930, and 23.7 at 27th January, 1930.

At certain firms employing 51,416 workpeople, from which returns were received for the week ended 24th January, 1931, the volume of employment in that week (as indicated by the number of

workpeople employed, combined with the number of shifts* during which work was carried on in each department) decreased by 4.0 per cent. as compared with the week ended 20th December, 1930, and by 31.4 per cent. as compared with January, 1930. The average number of shifts during which the works were open was 5.1 in the week ended 24th January, 1931, as compared with 5.0 in December, 1930, and 5.4 in January, 1930.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns for the three periods :—

DEPARTMENTS.	No. of Workpeople employed by Firms making returns.			Aggregate number of Shifts.		
	Week ended 24th Jan., 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a		Week ended 24th Jan., 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
		Per cent.	Per cent.		Per cent.	Per cent.
Open Hearth Melting Furnaces ..	4,827	+ 5.8	- 33.4	27,169	+ 5.3	- 34.1
Puddling Forges ..	1,189	- 29.6	- 38.9	4,725	- 23.8	- 46.4
Rolling Mills ..	18,984	- 3.1	- 25.7	84,590	- 2.9	- 34.9
Forging & Pressing ..	1,585	- 16.8	- 44.7	7,771	- 16.0	- 47.1
Founding ...	6,517	- 6.5	- 18.4	34,971	- 8.8	- 23.4
Other Departments	7,147	- 4.5	- 21.9	40,056	- 2.5	- 23.4
Mechanics, Labourers ..	11,167	- 4.6	- 26.2	61,185	- 3.7	- 29.9
TOTAL ..	51,416	- 4.6	- 26.4	260,467	- 4.0	- 31.4
DISTRICTS.						
Northumberland, Durham and Cleveland	10,163	- 0.9	- 30.1	53,431	- 0.1	- 33.6
Sheffield & Rotherham	15,746	- 2.8	- 12.8	80,470	- 4.0	- 16.7
Leeds, Bradford, etc.	459	- 6.9	- 17.4	1,998	- 12.6	- 22.3
Cumberland, Lancs. and Cheshire ...	4,319	- 3.4	- 34.1	19,967	- 3.0	- 43.0
Staffordshire ...	3,842	- 12.3	- 27.0	20,030	- 9.3	- 31.1
Other Midland Counties	2,852	- 5.0	- 17.8	14,892	- 4.2	- 23.1
Wales and Monmouth ...	5,037	- 15.6	- 44.1	26,246	- 14.4	- 45.5
Total, England and Wales ...	42,418	- 5.3	- 26.2	217,034	- 5.0	- 30.3
Scotland ...	8,998	- 1.4	- 27.7	43,433	+ 1.3	- 36.7
TOTAL ...	51,416	- 4.6	- 26.4	260,467	- 4.0	- 31.4

The production of steel ingots and castings, as shown in returns received from the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, amounted to 402,200 tons in January, 1931, as compared with 337,200 tons in December, 1930, and 771,100 tons in January, 1930.

SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP-REPAIRING.

EMPLOYMENT remained very bad during January, and showed a further decline on the whole. As in the previous month, the greatest increase in the percentage unemployed was in Northern Ireland, where the percentage rose to 51.0. Even these high figures were exceeded in Scotland (51.2), the North-Eastern Division (54.8), and Wales (57.8), though the figures for Wales showed a considerable improvement compared with those for the previous month.

Compared with a year ago there was a heavy decline in employment in practically all districts.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, at 26th January, 1931, and the increase or decrease as compared with 22nd December, 1930, and 27th January, 1930 :—

Divisions.	Total Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 26th January, 1931.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Numbers Unemployed as compared with a		Percentage Unemployed at 26th January, 1931.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Percentage Unemployed as compared with a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
London ...	2,994	- 425	+ 905	31.2	- 4.4	+ 11.8
South-Eastern...	1,191	+ 104	+ 434	15.9	+ 1.4	+ 5.5
South-Western	4,158	+ 303	+ 2,393	19.6	+ 1.5	+ 11.3
Midlands ...	127	- 15	- 9	38.5	- 4.5	- 6.8
North-Eastern	33,472	- 251	+ 15,821	54.8	- 0.4	+ 25.5
North-Western	13,913	+ 950	+ 6,781	48.3	+ 3.3	+ 23.6
Scotland ...	28,872	+ 1,478	+ 15,130	51.2	+ 2.6	+ 27.6
Wales ...	4,267	- 538	+ 1,430	57.8	- 7.3	+ 21.4
Northern Ireland	6,335	+ 1,405	+ 4,087	51.0	+ 11.3	+ 32.3
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	95,329	+ 3,011	+ 47,572	46.6	+ 1.5	+ 23.2

* The figures relate to the number of shifts during which the works were in operation taken in conjunction with the number of men employed. No account is taken of time lost by individuals owing to absenteeism, etc., and it is not intended to imply that the number of "shifts" shown were actually worked by all the men employed. Works closed are omitted in computing the average number of shifts.

ENGINEERING.

EMPLOYMENT remained bad during January and showed a decline in all sections except the motor vehicle section, in which there was some improvement. In electrical engineering, though considerable decline was shown, employment was still relatively moderate; in motor vehicle engineering it was slack; in general, marine, and constructional engineering it was bad.

Compared with a year ago employment was much worse in all sections and in all areas.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, at 26th January, 1931, and the increase or decrease as compared with a month before and a year before:—

Division.	Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 26th January, 1931.						Increase (+) or Decrease (—) as compared with a	
	General Engineer- ing; Engineers, Iron and Steel Founding.	Electrical Engineering.	Marine Engineering, etc.	Constructional Engineering.	Motor Vehicles, Cycles, and Aircraft.	TOTAL.	Month before.	Year before.
London ...	8,665	1,379	161	545	4,193	14,943	+ 2,319	+ 7,568
South-Eastern ...	6,752	1,141	337	152	2,469	10,851	+ 1,116	+ 6,397
South-Western ...	3,660	223	527	107	3,215	7,732	+ 727	+ 3,760
Midlands ...	17,039	3,524	214	1,807	19,692	42,276	+ 1,415	+ 25,587
North-Eastern ...	38,342	1,340	9,123	2,127	2,382	53,314	+ 1,803	+ 28,323
North-Western ...	47,283	4,172	233	771	3,838	56,297	+ 249	+ 28,640
Scotland ...	21,903	532	7,741	1,856	1,992	34,024	— 3,530	+ 20,738
Wales ...	2,021	81	33	178	514	2,827	+ 151	+ 1,245
Northern Ireland	1,717	124	1,920	22	276	4,059	+ 25	+ 2,333
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTH- EAST IRELAND	147,382	12,516	20,289	7,565	38,571	226,323	+ 4,275	+ 124,591
Percentages Unemployed at 26th January, 1931.								
London ...	10.1	9.6	20.1	15.5	10.3	10.3	+ 1.6	+ 5.1
South-Eastern ...	14.1	13.8	13.6	25.3	8.7	12.4	+ 1.3	+ 7.2
South-Western ...	10.2	6.2	8.2	18.4	11.4	10.3	+ 0.9	+ 4.9
Midlands ...	18.9	12.1	13.9	26.3	20.0	18.7	+ 0.6	+ 11.2
North-Eastern ...	33.1	15.4	41.4	29.9	17.2	31.8	+ 1.1	+ 16.9
North-Western ...	36.9	18.9	34.3	26.0	17.7	32.1	+ 0.2	+ 16.3
Scotland ...	28.9	17.3	39.4	33.3	18.1	29.6	— 3.1	+ 18.0
Wales ...	36.3	20.3	23.6	25.4	23.8	31.6	+ 1.7	+ 14.2
Northern Ireland	24.7	31.0	30.4	55.0	12.8	25.6	+ 0.2	+ 14.2
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTH- EAST IRELAND	24.9	13.9	33.8	27.0	15.6	22.2	+ 0.4	+ 12.1
<i>Ditto, Dec., 1930</i>	<i>24.7</i>	<i>11.1</i>	<i>32.3</i>	<i>23.9</i>	<i>16.2</i>	<i>21.8</i>	—	—
<i>Ditto, Jan., 1930</i>	<i>11.7</i>	<i>5.2</i>	<i>10.8</i>	<i>12.0</i>	<i>7.7</i>	<i>10.1</i>	—	—

On the North-East Coast employment remained very bad in general and marine engineering. In Yorkshire and Lincolnshire further decline was reported and employment remained bad. In Lancashire and Cheshire it was bad and declined in all sections except the motor vehicle section, in which there was an improvement; it was particularly bad in the textile machinery section.

In the Birmingham, Wolverhampton and Coventry district employment in the motor vehicle section showed some improvement but remained bad, while in general engineering it was bad and showed a decline; in the electrical section it remained moderate, on the whole. In the Nottingham, Derby and Leicester district there was little change and employment continued slack.

In London and the Southern Counties employment showed a general decline and was moderate on the whole.

In Scotland employment remained very bad notwithstanding an appreciable improvement in general engineering; it was very bad also in Wales and in Northern Ireland.

COTTON INDUSTRY.

THE dispute in the weaving department of the industry which began on 5th January gradually disorganised employment in all departments. At the end of January the majority of the weaving sheds were entirely closed down; a considerable number of spinning mills were also at a standstill, and others had reduced production, owing to the great reduction in the demand for yarn.

The percentage of insured workpeople recorded as unemployed including those temporarily stopped, was 43.9* at 26th January, 1931, as compared with 47.4 at 22nd December, 1930, and with 20.0 at 27th January, 1930.

At Ashton-under-Lyne employment continued very bad, with much short time. At Stockport short time was largely worked. At Glossop and Hyde employment was bad. At Stalybridge irregular short time prevailed, although the dispute had not materially affected the mills up till the end of January. At Oldham employment in the spinning section was described as very bad, and worse than for several months past; more short time was worked, and several complete stoppages took place, owing to lack of orders due to the dispute. In the manufacturing section employment was very bad, and became worse each week of the month; machinery was idle at nearly every firm, and those operatives still employed were working with a reduced number of looms, or were being suspended in rotation. At Middleton, employment in the Egyptian spinning section was still described as fairly good; but short time continued in the American spinning section. At Shaw employment

showed a further decline; twelve additional mills were closed at the end of the month. At Bolton employment declined, and was bad both in the spinning and in the weaving departments; in the four weeks ended 17th January, more than half of the operative spinners on the average were working less than half the normal hours. At Leigh employment with spinners was bad. At Bury irregular short time operated generally, and the position grew worse as the spinning section was increasingly affected by lack of orders owing to the dispute. At Rochdale employment showed a slight decline, and employment was very bad.

At Preston twelve non-federated weaving mills (out of the thirty-eight mills in the district), and four spinning and doubling mills, were still running at the end of January. At Chorley the employment position showed little change up till 26th January; since that date nearly all the local weaving sheds have been affected by the dispute. At Blackburn employment was completely disorganised by the dispute, nearly all the mills being affected. At Accrington employment in the hard waste section of the trade was good, full time being worked; in the finer cloth trade only two mills were still running at the end of the month. At Darwen all but seven of the mills were closed owing to general trade depression and the dispute. At Great Harwood only three mills remained open. At Burnley (the centre of the dispute), with one or two isolated exceptions, all the federated mills were closed down; a number of non-federated mills, however, were still running at the end of January. Padiham was also affected by the dispute, and employment there was described as bad. At Nelson there was some improvement in employment at the beginning of the month; but at the end of the month 90 per cent. of the mills were affected by the dispute. At Colne employment was practically at a standstill towards the end of the month.

In the Rossendale Valley employment was very bad; a number of mills closed down for periods varying from three days to two weeks during January, and there was much under-employment in other forms. In Yorkshire employment was very bad at all the principal centres, and worse than in December.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns:—

DEPARTMENTS.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 24th Jan., 1931.*	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) on a		Week ended 24th Jan., 1931.*	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) on a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
Preparing ...	6,990	— 13.6	— 30.5	9,649	— 16.6	— 39.5
Spinning ...	13,811	— 10.5	— 28.1	18,489	— 14.0	— 38.9
Weaving ...	16,750	— 27.4	— 40.9	23,476	— 34.0	— 49.7
Other ...	4,898	— 18.0	— 29.0	10,192	— 22.1	— 34.4
Not Specified ...	4,227	— 9.5	— 26.9	6,277	— 15.2	— 38.8
TOTAL ...	46,676	— 18.5	— 33.6	68,083	— 23.6	— 42.6
DISTRICTS.						
Ashton ...	2,702	— 10.9	— 29.2	3,798	— 3.7	— 36.2
Stockport, Glossop and Hyde ...	5,773	— 13.8	— 32.8	8,242	— 16.0	— 41.2
Oldham ...	5,531	— 22.3	— 35.2	8,475	— 23.7	— 46.1
Bolton and Leigh ...	12,110	— 3.5	— 18.8	17,251	— 5.6	— 27.9
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, Walsden and Todmorden ...	4,646	— 8.7	— 28.2	6,690	— 17.1	— 41.0
Manchester ...	2,649	— 2.7	— 4.9	3,162	— 20.0	— 23.5
Preston and Chorley ...	3,425	— 28.9	— 29.2	5,072	— 35.9	— 38.2
Blackburn Accrington and Darwen ...	1,762	— 54.5	— 69.8	2,894	— 58.8	— 72.7
Burnley and Padiham ...	749	— 70.7	— 81.4	1,421	— 70.2	— 81.7
Colne and Nelson ...	1,472	— 44.6	— 55.6	2,903	— 46.2	— 56.2
Other Lancashire Towns ...	968	+ 5.4	— 20.9	1,188	+ 1.5	— 25.7
Yorkshire Towns ...	2,267	— 12.1	— 21.0	3,197	— 15.7	— 30.4
Other Districts ...	2,622	— 0.6	— 14.6	3,790	— 2.6	— 9.7
TOTAL ...	46,676	— 18.5	— 33.6	68,083	— 23.6	— 42.6

Returns from firms employing over 45,000 operatives in the week ended 24th January, showed that about 38 per cent. were on short time in that week, with a loss of 15 hours each, on an average.

The following Table shows the number of men and of women (other than casuals) on the registers of Employment Exchanges in the principal cotton trade centres at 26th January, 1931:—

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 26th January, 1931.						
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Card and Blow- ing Room ...	2,163	13,609	15,772	3,679	14,852	18,531	34,303
Spinning ...	13,475	11,272	24,747	18,812	11,254	30,066	54,813
Beaming, Wind- ing and Warp- ing ...	3,000	13,445	16,445	2,708	13,840	16,548	32,993
Weaving ...	13,249	45,317	58,566	4,687	12,503	17,190	75,756
Other Processes	1,975	499	2,474	705	574	1,279	3,753
Total ...	33,862	84,142	118,004	30,591	53,023	83,614	201,618

* The figures for this week were affected by the dispute in the manufacturing section, although at some firms the stoppage had not become fully operative in the period covered by the returns, which in many cases relate to the pay week ending a few days before 24th January.

* Excluding those disqualified for unemployment benefit by reason of the dispute.

The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with 22nd December, 1930:—

Department.	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Card and Blowing Room ...	+ 39	+ 261	+ 300	- 30	- 1,484	- 1,514	- 1,214
Spinning ...	+ 608	- 68	+ 540	- 367	- 1,599	- 1,966	- 1,426
Beaming, Winding and Warping ...	+ 54	+ 587	+ 641	- 817	- 2,271	- 3,088	- 2,447
Weaving ...	+ 56	+ 1,048	+ 1,104	- 3,239	- 6,108	- 9,347	- 8,243
Other Processes ...	+ 23	- 10	+ 13	- 62	- 96	- 158	- 145
Total ...	+ 780	+ 1,818	+ 2,598	- 4,515	- 11,558	- 16,073	- 13,475

The imports (less re-exports) of raw cotton (including cotton linters) were 109,192,700 lbs. in January, 1931, compared with 190,383,300 lbs. in the previous month and with 168,716,700 lbs. in January, 1930.

The exports of cotton yarn were 11,336,500 lbs. in January, 1931, compared with 11,646,500 lbs. in December, 1930, and with 13,156,500 lbs. in January, 1930.

The exports of cotton piece goods in January, 1931, were 155,629,900 square yards, compared with 130,154,200 square yards in the previous month, and 313,183,000 square yards in January, 1930.

WOOL TEXTILE INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT was very depressed, and worse than a month earlier, both in the woollen and in the worsted sections; the decline was shown in all departments, and in practically all districts. Employment was much below the level of January, 1930.

In the carpet trade employment was very slack; it was worse than in December, and much worse than a year ago.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed in the woollen and worsted industries, including those temporarily stopped, was 31.3 at 26th January, 1931, as compared with 27.7 at 22nd December, 1930, and with 20.5 at 27th January, 1930.

Worsted Section.—Employment continued bad, and was worse than in December; it was much worse than a year ago.

At Bradford employment was worse than a month earlier, and much worse than in January, 1930. At Huddersfield it showed a marked decline. At Keighley and at Halifax the majority of firms were on short time, and the general position showed no improvement. In the worsted section as a whole, returns from employers for the week ended 24th January showed that about 41 per cent. of the operatives worked short time,* losing about 14½ hours each on an average; about 5 per cent. were on overtime, to the extent of about 6 hours each.

With wool sorters employment continued slack, and was worse than a year ago; in addition to large numbers unemployed about 20 per cent. of those at work were on short time. In the wool combing department the merino section continued to be fairly well employed; but there was no improvement in the carding crossbred and preparing sections, in which conditions were bad. About 37 per cent. of the operatives covered by the employers' returns in the wool sorting, combing, and preparing departments lost, on an average, about 16 hours each in short time in the week ended 24th January.

In the worsted spinning department employment was bad, and showed a further marked decline. About 43 per cent. of the operatives covered by the employers' returns worked short time in the week ended 24th January losing, on an average, about 15 hours each; there was very little overtime.

In the worsted weaving department there was also a marked decline, and employment generally was slack. About 38 per cent. of the operatives covered by the employers' returns worked short time in the week ended 24th January, losing, on an average, about 14 hours* each in the week ended 24th January; about 8 per cent. worked overtime to the extent of 5½ hours each.

Woollen Section.—Employment showed again a further decline in all the principal departments, and was much below the level of a year ago. Employers' returns for the week ended 24th January showed that about 58 per cent. of the workers in the spinning department, and about 59 per cent. of those in the weaving department, were on short time,* losing on an average, about 13 and 11½ hours each, respectively. In the woollen section as a whole, about 55 per cent. of the operatives lost, on an average, about 12 hours each in short time,* in the week ended 24th January; there was practically no overtime working.

In the Huddersfield and Colne Valley district employment showed a further slight decline; very few firms were still working night-work or overtime. In the Heavy Woollen District (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) employment continued very slack; at Dewsbury it was reported that employment in every section of the industry was much worse than at any time during the past eighteen months, and practically all the mills were on short time, most of them working only 24 or 30

hours a week. In the rag and shoddy trade employment remained very poor. In the Leeds district employment generally was bad and worse than in December.

In the Stockport district employment with woollen workers continued very poor. At Rochdale employment was again reported as moderate.

In the West of England employment on the whole remained slack. In Wales there was a decline, and employment was slack, particularly in Montgomeryshire.

In Scotland employment on the whole was slack, and showed a further decline; at Galashiels there was increased short time working in the tweed mills, while at Ayr tweed manufacturers were slack, and blanket weavers were under-employed; at Alloa, on the other hand, some improvement was noted, though short time working still continued on a considerable scale.

Carpet Section.—Employment was very slack, and worse than in December and a year ago. At Kidderminster employment remained bad; most of the factories were working only three days a week, and some weavers were suspended for weeks at a time. In Yorkshire employment remained very quiet; increased unemployment was reported at Sowerby Bridge and additional short time working at Wakefield. In Scotland employment was slack at all the principal centres.

In the carpet industry as a whole about 77 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the employers' returns were on short time in the week ended 24th January, losing about 11 hours each on an average; no overtime was reported.

The following Table summarises the returns received from employers:—

Departments :	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 24th Jan., 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month before.	Index figure. (Jan., 1926 = 100.)	Week ended 24th Jan., 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month before.	Index figure. (Jan., 1926 = 100.)
WORSTED SECTION :						
Wool Sorting and Combing ...	11,260	+ 0.1	86.2	24,084	- 2.8	73.0
Spinning... ..	34,316	- 3.9	82.3	46,397	- 9.6	70.7
Weaving... ..	18,381	- 4.0	85.8	32,590	- 9.6	74.3
Other Depts. ...	9,425	- 3.5	93.3	19,471	- 11.6	73.4
Not specified ...	1,823	+ 3.2	99.8	3,343	+ 4.0	78.3
Total—Worsted	75,205	- 3.1	85.1	125,885	- 8.4	72.8
WOOLLEN SECTION :						
Wool Sorting ...	921	- 3.2	73.8	1,829	- 6.9	69.7
Spinning... ..	11,626	- 2.8	79.6	20,839	- 6.9	73.2
Weaving... ..	21,266	- 4.4	86.7	33,728	- 7.7	79.0
Other Depts. ...	15,823	- 3.8	87.7	31,189	- 9.2	79.2
Not specified ...	2,493	- 2.3	80.2	3,989	- 18.7	65.2
Total—Woollen	52,129	- 3.7	84.9	91,574	- 8.6	76.7
CARPET SECTION ...	9,799	- 2.7	99.5	14,771	- 13.6	81.2
Total—Wool Textile Industry	137,133	- 3.3	85.7	232,230	- 8.8	74.9
Districts† :						
WORSTED SECTION :						
Bradford ...	32,178	- 2.3	80.6	58,543	- 5.2	69.6
Huddersfield ...	8,967	- 7.3	97.0	15,020	- 17.9	74.7
Halifax ...	8,876	- 1.4	83.9	13,603	- 5.5	71.6
Leeds ...	7,639	- 3.4	89.8	12,222	- 9.9	80.8
Keighley... ..	7,589	- 1.3	86.4	12,215	- 6.0	79.8
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	3,252	- 6.8	93.9	4,208	- 17.8	80.7
Total, West Riding ...	68,501	- 3.1	85.0	115,811	- 8.2	72.6
West of England and Midlands ...	4,474	- 4.5	83.1	7,004	- 12.5	67.4
Lancashire ...	306	- 4.4	104.9	521	- 2.8	91.0
Scotland... ..	1,924	...	92.1	2,549	- 5.8	98.9
Total—Worsted	75,205	- 3.1	85.1	125,885	- 8.4	72.8
WOOLLEN SECTION :						
Huddersfield ...	11,853	- 1.7	82.9	24,220	- 2.8	74.7
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	9,209	- 6.7	79.1	14,908	- 15.1	71.0
Leeds ...	7,314	- 4.0	86.8	13,031	- 9.5	78.8
Halifax and Calder Vale ...	1,959	...	76.6	3,596	+ 2.9	60.1
Bradford ...	1,256	- 1.3	100.5	2,311	- 9.2	81.1
Total, West Riding ...	31,591	- 3.6	83.6	58,066	- 7.7	75.7
Lancashire ...	4,680	- 4.5	87.7	8,569	- 9.8	84.6
West of England and Midlands ...	4,027	+ 0.6	92.0	6,927	- 3.3	96.1
Scotland... ..	11,738	- 4.7	85.2	17,875	- 12.1	71.4
Wales ...	93	- 40.8	72.7	157	- 35.7	77.2
Total—Woollen	52,129	- 3.7	84.9	91,574	- 8.6	76.7
CARPET SECTION ...	9,799	- 2.7	99.5	14,771	- 13.6	81.2
Total—Wool Textile Industry	137,133	- 3.3	85.7	232,230	- 8.8	74.9

* The figures given in this article as to short time do not take into account, in the case of the weaving departments, other forms of under-employment, such as "playing for warps," and tending one instead of two looms

* Comparison with 1926 is affected by reductions in rates of wages.
† Most of the districts are indicated by the names of their principal towns, but neighbouring towns and areas are included in each case.

The following Tables show, by districts and by departments, the percentage increases and decreases in the numbers employed in the week ended 24th January, 1931, by those firms who supplied returns for the purpose of the foregoing Table (excluding the carpet section), as compared with the week ended 20th December, 1930:—

	Percentage Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) in numbers employed as compared with previous month. (... signifies "no change":—without a figure, signifies "few or no workpeople returned.")				
	Wool Sorting and Combing.	Spinning.	Weaving.	Other Depts.	All Depts. (including not specified).
WORSTED SECTION:					
Bradford ...	+ 0.3	— 4.8	— 2.9	+ 1.8	— 2.3
Huddersfield ...	— 3.3	— 7.5	— 8.9	— 5.8	— 7.3
Halifax ...	+ 0.5	— 1.8	— 0.3	— 0.6	— 1.4
Leeds ...	—	— 4.7	— 0.5	— 9.1	— 3.4
Kelghley ...	— 2.4	— 0.5	— 1.9	— 3.9	— 1.3
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	—	— 5.9	—	— 8.3	— 6.8
Total, West Riding ...	— 0.1	— 3.9	— 3.8	— 3.8	— 3.1
West of England and Midlands ...	+ 10.4	— 7.5	— 6.8	— 3.3	— 4.5
Lancashire ...	—	— 4.3	—	—	— 4.4
Scotland ...	— 3.6	+ 1.7	—	— 0.4	...
TOTAL ...	+ 0.1	— 3.9	— 4.0	— 3.5	— 3.1

	Percentage Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) in numbers employed as compared with previous month. (... signifies "no change.")			
	Spinning.	Weaving.	Other Depts.	All Depts. (including not specified).
WOOLLEN SECTION:				
Huddersfield ...	— 1.3	— 1.2	— 2.5	— 1.7
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	— 4.8	— 7.6	— 7.1	— 6.7
Leeds ...	— 0.7	— 7.6	— 0.3	— 4.0
Halifax and Calder Vale ...	...	— 0.5	+ 0.9	...
Bradford ...	— 1.4	— 0.7	— 1.8	— 1.3
Total, West Riding ...	— 2.1	— 4.5	— 3.7	— 3.6
Lancashire ...	— 6.8	— 5.8	— 1.8	— 4.5
West of England and Midlands ...	+ 0.3	+ 0.6	+ 0.1	+ 0.6
Scotland ...	— 4.0	— 4.7	— 5.9	— 4.7
Wales ...	— 44.1	— 41.9	— 40.4	— 40.8
TOTAL ...	— 2.8	— 4.4	— 3.8	— 3.7

The following Table shows the number of men and of women (other than casuals) on the registers of Employment Exchanges in the principal wool textile trade centres at 26th January, 1931:—

Department.	Numbers (excluding casuals) on the Registers at 26th January, 1931.					
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.		
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.
Wool Sorting ...	402	8	410	494	3	497
Wool Washing and Preparing ...	745	1,011	1,756	917	642	1,559
Wool Combing ...	426	797	1,223	1,082	808	1,890
Wool Carding ...	868	287	1,155	950	213	1,163
Woollen Spinning ...	708	391	1,099	838	500	1,338
Worsted Drawing and Spinning ...	995	5,161	6,156	783	5,155	5,938
Wool Winding and Warping ...	161	86	247	446	205	651
Worsted Winding and Warping ...	264	945	1,209	377	1,505	1,882
Woollen Weaving ...	307	2,488	2,795	665	4,149	4,814
Worsted Weaving ...	363	1,617	1,980	382	4,100	4,482
Other Processes ...	1,492	260	1,752	1,844	386	2,235
Total ...	6,731	13,051	19,782	8,783	17,666	26,449

The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with 22nd December, 1930:—

Department.	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Wool Sorting ...	+ 37	+ 2	+ 39	+ 25	— 1	+ 24	+ 63
Wool Washing and Preparing ...	+ 29	+ 10	+ 39	+ 126	— 57	+ 69	+ 108
Wool Combing ...	— 32	+ 94	+ 62	+ 124	— 15	+ 109	+ 171
Wool Carding ...	+ 84	+ 4	+ 88	— 14	+ 14	...	+ 88
Woollen Spinning ...	+ 111	+ 42	+ 153	+ 223	+ 45	+ 268	+ 421
Worsted Drawing and Spinning ...	+ 54	+ 249	+ 303	+ 163	+ 1,575	+ 1,738	+ 2,041
Wool Winding and Warping ...	— 16	+ 13	— 3	+ 93	+ 47	+ 140	+ 137
Worsted Winding and Warping ...	+ 59	— 4	+ 55	+ 136	+ 462	+ 598	+ 653
Woollen Weaving ...	— 5	+ 254	+ 249	+ 214	+ 386	+ 600	+ 849
Worsted Weaving ...	+ 10	— 135	— 125	+ 254	+ 1,104	+ 1,358	+ 1,233
Other Processes ...	+ 88	...	+ 88	+ 450	+ 145	+ 595	+ 683
Total ...	+ 419	+ 529	+ 948	+ 1,794	+ 3,705	+ 5,499	+ 6,447

The imports (less re-exports) of raw wool (sheep's or lambs') were 77,354,200 lbs. in January, 1931, compared with 57,552,200 lbs. in the previous month, and 6,406,600 lbs. in January, 1930.

The exports of woollen and worsted yarns in January, 1931, were 2,391,600 lbs., compared with 2,825,100 lbs. in December, 1930, and with 3,709,800 lbs. in January, 1930.

The exports of woollen and worsted tissues in January, 1931, were 10,394,800 square yards, compared with 7,525,200 square yards in the previous month, and with 14,089,100 square yards in January, 1930.

The exports of blankets were 50,699 pairs, 38,056 pairs and 54,198 pairs in January, 1931, December, 1930, and January, 1930, respectively.

BOOT AND SHOE INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT was bad generally at the beginning of January; a number of establishments in some districts extended the Christmas holiday stoppage, and did not reopen until 5th January. There was a slight improvement in some districts during the month, but employment remained bad in the industry as a whole; it was much worse than in January, 1930.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 21.3 at 26th January, 1931, as compared with 25.6 at 22nd December, 1930, and with 12.3 at 27th January, 1930.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns for the three periods:—

	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 24th Jan., 1931.	Inc (+) or Dec. (−) on a		Week ended 24th Jan., 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) on a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
England and Wales:—		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
London	1,729	+ 0.2	− 11.4	3,497	− 6.4	− 19.5
Leicester	10,432	+ 3.9	− 2.0	24,253	+ 5.2	− 8.8
Leicester Country District	2,666	+ 2.9	+ 0.5	5,627	+ 1.1	− 9.2
Northampton... ..	7,320	+ 3.0	− 5.8	15,408	− 0.8	− 17.3
Higham, Rushden and District	5,893	+ 0.9	− 2.2	13,228	+ 3.5	− 6.6
Kettering and District	5,579	+ 0.9	− 1.4	13,589	+ 1.0	− 1.1
Rest of Northants	1,489	− 2.8	− 17.1	3,188	− 8.7	− 16.2
Stafford and District	2,510	+ 0.2	+ 0.6	4,232	− 8.3	− 12.5
Norwich and District	5,752	+ 3.8	− 5.8	10,678	− 1.6	− 13.8
Bristol, Kingswood and District	1,534	− 4.8	− 6.7	2,439	− 17.3	− 15.5
Leeds and District	1,720	− 2.8	− 3.3	3,433	− 11.5	− 12.1
Lancashire (mainly Rossendale Valley)	5,522	− 1.2	+ 0.8	10,197	+ 0.4	− 6.9
Birmingham and District	1,162	+ 14.0	− 5.4	2,216	+ 14.2	− 9.1
Other parts of England and Wales	3,810	− 1.3	− 4.5	8,052	− 2.1	− 12.4
England and Wales	57,118	+ 1.5	− 3.6	120,037	− 0.2	− 10.5
Scotland	2,213	− 3.2	− 7.2	4,775	− 5.5	− 12.0
Great Britain... ..	59,331	+ 1.3	− 3.7	124,812	− 0.4	− 10.5

Returns received from firms employing about 58,200 workpeople in the week ended 24th January indicated that a little more than half of these operatives were on short time in that week, losing about 11 hours each, on the average; the amount of overtime reported was negligible.

Employment in London continued slack, although a few firms were comparatively busy; it was much below the level of January, 1930. At Leicester employment was slack generally, though there was said to be a fair demand for skilled machinists; in the week ended 24th January, about 55 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the employers' returns were on short time, losing about 10½ hours each on the average. There was also a slight improvement in the Leicester country district. At Northampton employment continued bad; nearly three-quarters of the operatives covered by the employers' returns for the week ended 24th January worked short time, losing about 12½ hours each on the average. In the Higham and Rushden, Kettering and Wellingborough districts there was a slight improvement during the month, and a few firms were working full time; employment was slack generally, however, with much short-time working. There was also a slight improvement during the month at Wollaston and Earls Barton; and employment remained fairly good at Irthlingborough and at Raunds. At Stafford employment continued very slack or bad with most firms; over 75 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the employers' returns were on short time in the week ended 24th January, losing about 16 hours each on the average. At Norwich employment continued very slack, especially in the turn shoe department.

In the Bristol and Kingswood district employment remained bad, particularly in the heavy boot trade; practically all firms were working short time to some extent. At Leeds, also, employment was bad. In the slipper trade in Lancashire employment continued very quiet generally, with a considerable amount of short-time working; there was some improvement, however, at Bacup and at Bury, and at Preston a number of firms were on full time.

In Scotland, there was a further decline, and employment was reported as slack at Glasgow, Edinburgh and Maybole.

The following Table shows the number of men and of women (other than casuals) on the registers of Employment Exchanges in the principal centres of the boot and shoe industry at 26th January, 1931:—

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 26th January, 1931.						Total.
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Boot and Shoe Manu- facture :							
Preparing Depart- ment	190	74	264	158	53	211	475
Rough Stuff De- partment	494	52	546	323	32	355	901
Clicking Department	994	22	1,016	1,424	45	1,469	2,485
Closing Department	36	1,889	1,925	20	1,683	1,703	3,628
Making Department	2,531	89	2,620	2,564	44	2,608	5,228
Finishing Depart- ment	1,877	920	2,797	1,604	375	1,979	4,776
Slipper Making ...	413	189	602	1,043	929	1,972	2,574
Clog Making... ..	12	4	16	4	2	6	22
Repairing and Hand- sewn Work	825	8	833	60	2	62	895
TOTAL	7,372	3,247	10,619	7,200	3,165	10,365	20,984

The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with 22nd December, 1930:—

Department.	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Boot and Shoe Manufacture:							
Preparing Department ...	- 24	+ 13	- 11	- 76	- 28	- 104	- 115
Rough Stuff Department ...	+ 28	+ 8	+ 36	- 212	- 22	- 234	- 198
Clicking Department ...	- 77	+ 2	- 75	- 1,042	+ 21	- 1,021	- 1,096
Closing Department ...	+ 3	+ 202	+ 205	- 1	- 1,388	- 1,389	- 1,184
Making Department ...	+ 139	+ 11	+ 150	- 929	- 6	- 935	- 785
Finishing Department ...	+ 191	+ 54	+ 245	- 658	- 225	- 883	- 638
Slipper Making ...	+ 35	...	+ 35	- 277	- 47	- 324	- 289
Clog Making ...	...	+ 3	+ 3	+ 4	+ 2	+ 6	+ 9
Repairing and Hand-sewn Work ...	+ 142	+ 2	+ 144	- 8	+ 1	- 7	+ 137
TOTAL ...	+ 437	+ 295	+ 732	- 3,199	- 1,692	- 4,891	- 4,159

The exports of boots and shoes in January, 1931, amounted to 62,330 dozen pairs, or 7,230 dozen pairs less than in December, 1930, and 39,473 dozen pairs less than in January, 1930.

BRICK INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during January showed a further seasonal decline and continued slack on the whole. In the Peterborough district it remained fair.

The percentage of insured persons unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 20.1 at 26th January, 1931, as compared with 18.3 at 22nd December, 1930, and 13.7 at 27th January, 1930.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns for the three periods under review:—

Districts.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 24th Jan., 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th Jan., 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire ...	1,603	- 5.0	- 12.1	3,869	- 0.2	- 10.7
Midlands and Eastern Counties ...	5,826	- 2.1	- 15.0	15,663	+ 0.7	- 19.3
South and South-West Counties and Wales ...	1,897	- 0.4	+ 2.2	4,448	+ 0.6	+ 3.9
Scotland ...	197	- 1.0	- 10.0	477	+ 1.5	- 13.3
TOTAL ...	9,523	- 2.2	- 11.4	24,457	+ 0.5	- 14.4

Returns from employers relative to short-time working, exclusive of time lost on account of bad weather, showed that, of 8,870 workpeople employed by firms furnishing information, nearly 10 per cent. were working on an average about 15 hours less than full time in the week ended 24th January, 1931; the amount of overtime worked was very small.

BUILDING.

THERE was a further decline during January, and employment was very slack or bad in most districts. It was reported as fair, however, at a few centres, including Macclesfield, Coventry, Southend-on-Sea and Paisley. Adverse weather conditions were again responsible for

an appreciable amount of lost time on outside work. As compared with January, 1930, employment was considerably worse in each administrative division.

As regards individual occupations, employment declined with bricklayers, masons and plumbers and was very slack, on the whole, with these classes; it also declined with slaters, plasterers and carpenters, and was bad in most districts. Employment again showed a considerable decline with painters and was very bad; it was very slack with tradesmen's labourers. As compared with January, 1930, employment was much worse with all classes of operatives.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts who were recorded as unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, at 26th January, 1931, together with the increase or decrease as compared with the previous month and with January, 1930:—

OCCUPATIONS.	Estimated Numbers of Insured Workpeople at July, 1930.	Total Numbers Unemployed at 26th Jan., 1931.	Number Included in Previous Column who were Temporarily Stopped.	Percentage Unemployed.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Percentage as compared with a	
					Month before.	Year before.
Carpenters ...	125,700	29,739	1,473	23.7	+ 5.0	+ 10.1
Bricklayers ...	73,790	15,701	1,331	21.3	+ 4.4	+ 8.4
Masons ...	21,180	4,496	621	21.2	+ 5.4	+ 10.3
Slaters ...	6,020	1,667	231	27.7	+ 7.2	+ 16.2
Plasterers ...	24,260	6,501	491	26.8	+ 5.4	+ 4.2
Painters ...	105,660	48,662	2,484	46.1	+ 8.0	+ 14.1
Plumbers ...	32,850	6,846	558	20.8	+ 4.0	+ 9.4
Labourers to above ...	240,660	60,399	2,908	25.1	+ 3.7	+ 7.2
All other occupations ...	202,150	51,001	2,772	25.2	+ 2.7	+ 6.1
Total ...	832,270	225,012	12,869	27.0	+ 4.3	+ 8.5

DIVISIONS.							
London ...	177,960	42,901	106	24.1	+ 5.7	+ 9.5	
South-Eastern ...	134,170	25,075	229	18.7	+ 3.7	+ 7.5	
South-Western ...	102,830	21,230	359	20.6	+ 3.4	+ 8.4	
Midlands ...	101,130	24,782	2,572	24.5	+ 4.4	+ 7.0	
North-Eastern ...	95,710	34,033	4,027	35.6	+ 4.0	+ 7.3	
North-Western ...	103,210	36,884	3,173	35.7	+ 4.3	+ 9.9	
Scotland ...	75,250	24,014	1,762	31.9	+ 4.6	+ 10.8	
Wales	25,640	11,441	605	44.6	+ 4.6	+ 10.5	
Northern Ireland	16,370	4,653	36	28.4	+ 1.6	+ 4.6	
Great Britain and Northern Ireland ...	832,270	225,012	12,869	27.0	+ 4.3	+ 8.5	

BUILDING PLANS APPROVED.

Returns from Local Authorities in 141 of the principal urban areas in Great Britain (except the London County Council area) with a total population of 15,972,000, show that in January, 1931, plans were passed for buildings of an estimated cost of £4,918,200, as compared with £5,182,200, in December, 1930, and £6,273,900, in January, 1930. Of the total for January, 1931, dwelling-houses accounted for £3,096,200; factories and workshops for £259,000; shops, offices, warehouses and other business premises for £440,000; and other buildings, and additions and alterations to existing buildings, for £1,123,000.

POTTERY INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT in North Staffordshire showed a slight improvement but remained bad, on the whole, with much short-time working. Short-time working also continued at Derby, Worcester and Bristol. In the stoneware section in Scotland employment remained bad.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 35.7 at 26th January, 1931, as compared with 41.9 at 22nd December, 1930, and 20.4 at 27th January, 1930.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns for the three periods:—

BRANCHES.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 24th Jan., 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th Jan., 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
China Manufacture ...	1,182	+ 0.8	- 7.9	1,941	- 9.1	- 19.2
Earthenware Manufacture ...	6,545	+ 2.3	- 15.3	10,485	+ 1.6	- 20.6
Other Branches (including unspecified) ...	1,717	- 3.2	- 5.8	3,077	- 10.6	- 8.6
TOTAL ...	9,444	+ 1.1	- 12.9	15,503	- 2.5	- 18.9
DISTRICTS.						
North Staffordshire ...	7,135	+ 2.6	- 13.3	10,742	- 0.3	- 16.8
Other Districts ...	2,309	- 3.2	- 11.4	4,761	- 7.1	- 21.5
TOTAL ...	9,444	+ 1.1	- 12.9	15,503	- 2.5	- 18.3

Returns from employers relative to short-time working showed that, of 8,499 workpeople employed by firms making returns, 4,302, or about 50½ per cent., were working on an average about 16½ hours less than full time in the week ended 24th January, 1931; the amount of overtime worked was very small.

PAPER MANUFACTURE, PRINTING, AND BOOKBINDING.

EMPLOYMENT in the paper making industry during January continued moderate on the whole, while showing a slight improvement compared with the previous month. Short time continued in a number of districts, and employment was generally slack in the hand-made section.

In the letterpress printing trade employment continued moderate on the whole, and again showed a decline compared with the previous month. It was much worse than in January, 1930. Employment was again reported as bad in London, though slightly better than in December, and was also bad at Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, Leeds, Bristol and Glasgow; it was fairly good, however, at some of the smaller centres.

With electrotypes and stereotypers employment was generally moderate to fair. It was reported as good at Birmingham and Glasgow, but bad at Manchester.

Employment in the lithographic printing trade showed a further decline, and short time prevailed at many centres. It was described as bad in many of the larger towns, including London, Birmingham, Liverpool, Manchester, Bristol and Glasgow; in some of the smaller centres employment was fair. With lithographic artists employment was moderate on the whole; it was slack, and worse than in the previous month, in London and at Manchester, while improving at Leeds and Nottingham.

Employment in the bookbinding trade generally remained moderate, but was worse than during January, 1930.

The percentage unemployed among insured workpeople in the paper and paper-board industries was 12.2 at 26th January, 1931, compared with 13.8 at 22nd December, 1930, and 4.7 at 27th January, 1930. In the printing and bookbinding industries the percentage was 10.0 at 26th January, 1931, compared with 8.2 at 22nd December, 1930, and 5.9 at 27th January, 1930. In the cardboard box, paper bag and stationery industries the percentage was 11.9 at 26th January, 1931, compared with 9.1 at 22nd December, 1930, and 5.4 at 27th January, 1930.

The following Table summarises the returns received from certain trade unions who furnished information for the three periods under review :—

	No. of Members of Unions at end of January, 1931.	Percentage Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (–) on a	
		Jan., 1931.	Dec., 1930.	Jan., 1930.	Month before.	Year before.
Letterpress Printing :						
London ...	38,996	6.1	5.4	4.3	+ 0.7	+ 1.8
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire.	16,940	6.7	5.9	4.4	+ 0.8	+ 2.3
Midlands and Eastern Counties ...	10,881	3.4	3.1	2.5	+ 0.3	+ 0.9
Scotland ...	6,347	6.8	5.4	3.6	+ 1.2	+ 3.2
Other Districts ...	11,091	4.3	4.0	2.0	+ 0.3	+ 2.3
Total ...	84,255	5.7	5.0	3.7	+ 0.7	+ 2.0
Lithographic Printing	11,550	7.4	6.8	3.6	+ 0.6	+ 3.8
Bookbinding ...	19,149	5.7	5.6	3.1	+ 0.1	+ 2.6

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

EMPLOYMENT during January showed a decline and was very slack. Among insured workpeople in the dock, harbour, river and canal service 40.4 per cent. were recorded as unemployed at 26th January, 1931, as compared with 35.2 per cent. at 22nd December, 1930, and with 32.0 per cent. at 27th January, 1930.

London.—The following Table shows the average daily number of dock labourers employed at docks and wharves in respect of which returns were received :—

Period.	Average Daily Number of Labourers employed in Docks and at Principal Wharves in London.				
	In Docks.			At Wharves making Returns.	Total, Docks and Principal Wharves.
	By the Port of London Authority or through Contractors.	By Ship-owners, etc.	Total.		
Week ended 3rd January, 1931	4,203	1,520	5,723	7,935	13,658
10th " "	4,288	1,487	5,775	8,022	13,797
17th " "	4,303	1,995	6,298	8,095	14,393
24th " "	4,550	1,828	6,378	8,229	14,607
31st " "	4,300	1,571	5,871	8,201	14,072
Average for 5 weeks ended 31st Jan., 1931	4,329	1,680	6,009	8,096	14,105
Average for Dec., 1930	4,878	1,738	6,616	8,141	14,757
Average for Jan., 1930	4,778	2,011	6,789	8,241	15,030

Tilbury.—The average daily number of dock labourers employed during January was 932, compared with 997 in December, 1930, and with 934 in January, 1930.

East Coast.—Employment at the North East Coast ports showed little change and continued generally moderate. Timber cargoes at the Hartlepoons and Sunderland slackened off during the month. Work remained slack at Grimsby, Yarmouth, Lowestoft and Lynn, and moderate at Hull, and there was no change in conditions at Ipswich, where employment continued fair.

Liverpool.—Employment was slack and worse than in December. The average weekly number of dock labourers registered at the clearing houses under the Liverpool Docks Scheme as employed in the five weeks ended 30th January, 1931, was 12,077, compared with 13,124 in December, 1930, and with 14,623 in January, 1930. The average weekly amount of wages paid to these men through the clearing houses was £26,656 in the five weeks ended 30th January 1931, compared with £28,516 in December, 1930, and with £38,867 in January, 1930.

Other Ports in England and Wales.—Employment at the South Wales ports was adversely affected by the coal mining dispute during January, but conditions were improving at the end of the month. Work on general cargoes was fair. Employment was not so good at Gloucester, Sharpness and Avonmouth, partly owing to reduction in timber cargoes. At Southampton, Weymouth and Plymouth work was slack.

Scottish and Irish Ports.—Employment was very poor at Glasgow. At Dundee there was some improvement and conditions were fair. At Grangemouth employment remained fair. It was moderate at Leith and fair at Belfast.

SEAMEN.

DURING January employment was very slack on the whole. The demand for seamen at the beginning of the month was affected by the stoppage of work in the South Wales coal-field and though in this district matters improved somewhat when work was resumed in the mines, the demand generally was very dull. No shortage was reported and the supply was more than adequate for requirements at all ports.

Among insured workpeople in the shipping service, the percentage recorded as unemployed at 26th January, 1931, was 34.7, compared with 33.0 at 22nd December, 1930, and 21.1 at 27th January, 1930.

The demand for men on the Thames was quiet, but improved towards the end of the month. On the Tyne it was fair until the middle of the month but became quiet thereafter; on the Tees and at the Hartlepoons it was poor. The demand on the Wear was fair in the first half of the month but subsequently became poor. At Southampton it was quiet, except for a slight increase in activity in the third week. The demand at Bristol showed a gradual decline and at the end of the month was slack; at Avonmouth, the demand in the early part of the month was very moderate, but there was subsequently an improvement, which however, was not maintained in the last week. At Newport the demand was slack but showed some improvement in the second half of the month; at Cardiff it was poor until the last week when a substantial improvement took place; at Swansea it was fair in the early part of the month but subsequently became quieter. The demand on the Mersey was moderate up to the middle of the month and became more active in the third week, but thereafter was slack; at Manchester, except for a quiet period in the third week, it was fair. On the Clyde there was a slight upward tendency in the first half of the month, but subsequently the demand was very quiet. At Leith and at Belfast the demand was generally slack.

The following Table shows the number of seamen shipped in British registered foreign-going vessels at the undermentioned ports of Great Britain and Northern Ireland during January :—

Principal Ports.	Number of Seamen* shipped in		
	Jan., 1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (–) on a	
		Month before.	Year before.
ENGLAND AND WALES :			
Liverpool† ...	9,375	+ 803	– 3,576
Manchester ...	678	+ 85	– 8
London ...	8,602	– 376	– 1,341
Southampton ...	6,833	+ 500	+ 401
Tyne Ports ...	1,973	– 67	– 453
Sunderland ...	121	– 175	– 164
Middlesbrough ...	180	– 59	– 296
Hull ...	801	– 289	– 314
Bristol‡ ...	712	+ 23	– 268
Newport, Mon. ...	384	– 79	– 643
Cardiff§ ...	1,153	– 879	– 1,593
Swansea ...	488	– 87	– 350
SCOTLAND :			
Leith ...	314	+ 98	+ 116
Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grangemouth ...	301	+ 126	– 242
Glasgow ...	2,524	– 406	– 840
NORTHERN IRELAND :			
Belfast ...	115	– 163	– 162
TOTAL for above Ports	34,554	– 945	– 9,733

* It will be understood that the numbers given are the numbers of separate engagements, and not of separate individuals.

† Including Birkenhead and Garston.

‡ Including Avonmouth and Portishead.

§ Including Barry and Penarth.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED INDUSTRIES.

THE statistics here presented show, industry by industry, the estimated number of persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, the number and percentage of such persons who were unemployed on 26th January, 1931, and the increase or decrease at that date in the total percentages unemployed compared with a month earlier, a year before, and two years before, respectively.

The Unemployment Insurance Acts provide, subject to certain exceptions, for the compulsory insurance against unemployment of substantially all employed persons. The principal classes of persons who are excepted from such compulsory insurance are juveniles under 16 years of age and (since 2nd January, 1928) persons aged 65 and over, persons employed otherwise than by way of manual labour at a rate of remuneration exceeding in value £250 per annum, persons employed in agriculture and private domestic service, and outworkers. Persons employed by local public authorities, railways and certain other public utility undertakings, members of the police forces, and persons with rights under a statutory superannuation scheme may, in certain circumstances, also be excepted.

An unemployment book, on which is recorded, *inter alia*, the industry in which he is employed, is issued to every insured person, and this book must be lodged at an Employment Exchange whenever the insured person to whom it relates makes a claim for unemployment benefit, or, without claiming benefit, ceases to be employed in an insured trade. The book must be removed and deposited with the employer for stamping as soon as employment in an insured trade is resumed.

The files of "lodged" books at the Employment Exchanges thus furnish for each industrial group a record of the unemployment of insured persons. In arriving at this figure the books of those persons who are known to be working in an uninsured trade, or to be sick or deceased, or who are known to have emigrated or gone abroad, are of course excluded. In cases where information on these points is lacking the books remain in the "lodged" files, and are included in the statistics of unemployment, for a period of two months from the date on which the insured person was last in touch with the Employment Exchange.

The numbers unemployed given in the following Table relate only to persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts. They include insured persons who are maintaining registration at Employment Exchanges, together with those whose unemployment books remain lodged in the "two months" file referred to above. The figures given on page 66 relating to persons registered at Employment Exchanges include uninsured as well as insured persons who are maintaining registration for employment, but not insured persons whose books are in the two months file.

A Table showing the composition of the two series of figures is given on page 66.

Insured persons who are disqualified for the receipt of unemployment benefit under the trade dispute disqualification are not included in the numbers unemployed, unless they are definitely maintaining registration for other employment.

The statistics of unemployment in insured industries are presented in two separate Tables, one showing the numbers recorded as unemployed, and the other showing the estimated numbers insured and the percentages unemployed.

Special Note. Persons aged 65 and over.

Under the provisions of the Widows', Orphans', and Old Age Contributory Pensions Act, 1925, all persons aged 65 and over ceased to be insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts as from 2nd January, 1928. (The employers of such persons, however, are required to pay contributions at the employer's rates.) The estimates of the numbers of insured persons in each industry prepared on the basis of the information obtained from the exchange of unemployment books, therefore, no longer include persons aged 65 and over. Such persons do not now appear in the statistics showing the number of insured persons recorded as unemployed, and the figures for dates subsequent to 2nd January, 1928, are therefore not comparable with those for earlier dates. For all practical purposes, however, the percentages unemployed can be regarded as comparable with the corresponding figures published each month since July, 1923.

NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS RECORDED AS UNEMPLOYED AT 26th JANUARY, 1931.

INDUSTRY.	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.									GREAT BRITAIN ONLY.		
	WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (including Casuals).			TEMPORARY STOPPAGES.			TOTAL.			WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED, TEMPORARY STOPPAGES, AND CASUALS.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Fishing	5,601	92	5,693	137	252	389	5,738	344	6,082	5,679	344	6,023
Mining :—												
Coal Mining	170,999	1,111	172,110	36,555	156	36,711	207,554	1,267	208,821	207,488	1,267	208,755
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining, etc.	3,776	2	3,778	1,064	...	1,064	4,840	2	4,842	4,804	2	4,806
Lead, Tin and Copper Mining ...	3,146	21	3,167	264	...	264	3,410	21	3,431	3,410	21	3,431
Stone Quarrying and Mining ...	6,107	25	6,132	2,120	1	2,121	8,227	26	8,253	7,642	23	7,665
Slate Quarrying and Mining ...	1,281	4	1,285	2,314	1	2,315	3,595	5	3,600	3,592	5	3,597
Mining and Quarrying not separately specified	2,011	257	2,268	595	25	620	2,606	282	2,888	2,467	281	2,748
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pits	2,363	34	2,397	829	15	844	3,192	49	3,241	3,123	49	3,172
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products :—												
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	2,781	45	2,826	591	8	599	3,372	53	3,425	3,372	53	3,425
Artificial Stone and Concrete ...	3,253	137	3,390	650	31	681	3,903	168	4,071	3,865	168	4,033
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting ...	2,821	150	2,971	1,383	10	1,393	4,204	160	4,364	4,159	160	4,319
Brick, Tile, etc., Making	10,997	1,688	12,685	3,941	418	4,359	14,938	2,106	17,044	14,777	2,105	16,882
Pottery, Earthenware, etc.	4,451	6,184	10,635	6,864	10,563	17,427	11,315	16,747	28,062	11,294	16,746	28,040
Glass Trades :—												
Glass (excluding Bottles and Scientific Glass)	2,924	899	3,823	1,414	424	1,838	4,338	1,323	5,661	4,331	1,323	5,654
Glass Bottles	2,991	309	3,300	1,258	71	1,329	4,249	380	4,629	4,249	380	4,629
Chemicals, etc. :—												
Chemicals	14,315	1,976	16,291	1,772	253	2,025	16,087	2,229	18,316	15,931	2,222	18,153
Explosives	1,449	751	2,200	282	142	424	1,731	893	2,624	1,730	893	2,623
Paint, Varnish, Red and White Leads	1,523	418	1,941	290	93	383	1,813	511	2,324	1,808	511	2,319
Oil, Glue, Soap, Ink, Matches, etc.	5,182	1,943	7,125	811	450	1,261	5,993	2,393	8,386	5,964	2,360	8,324
Metal Manufacture :—												
Pig Iron (Blast Furnaces)	6,551	42	6,593	1,345	10	1,355	7,896	52	7,948	7,887	52	7,939
Steel Melting and Iron Puddling, Iron and Steel Rolling and Forging	37,919	447	38,366	43,226	168	43,394	81,145	615	81,760	81,125	615	81,740
Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc.	6,479	557	7,036	2,794	82	2,876	9,273	639	9,912	9,115	639	9,754
Tin Plates	4,187	440	4,627	8,858	885	9,743	13,045	1,325	14,370	13,045	1,325	14,370
Iron and Steel Tubes	4,001	232	4,233	6,221	36	6,257	10,222	268	10,490	10,221	268	10,489
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Ropes ...	2,532	610	3,142	3,586	179	3,765	6,118	789	6,907	6,115	789	6,904
Engineering, etc. :—												
General Engineering; Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding	92,902	4,732	97,634	47,876	1,872	49,748	140,778	6,604	147,382	139,074	6,591	145,665
Electrical Engineering	7,262	2,007	9,269	2,752	495	3,247	10,014	2,502	12,516	9,893	2,499	12,392
Marine Engineering, etc.	16,171	82	16,253	3,950	86	4,036	20,121	168	20,289	18,201	168	18,369
Constructional Engineering	5,464	123	5,587	1,964	14	1,978	7,428	137	7,565	7,406	137	7,543
Construction and Repair of Vehicles :—												
Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft Carriages, Carts, etc.	27,577	2,567	30,144	8,014	413	8,427	35,591	2,980	38,571	35,322	2,973	38,295
Railway Carriages, Wagons and Tramcars	2,689	234	2,923	463	22	485	3,152	256	3,408	3,022	256	3,278
Tramcars	7,820	102	7,922	3,972	101	4,073	11,792	203	11,995	11,776	203	11,979

STATISTICS FORMING THE BASIS OF THE CHARTS ILLUSTRATING THE COURSE OF TRADE, OUTPUT, PRICES, WAGES, FINANCE AND EMPLOYMENT.

		1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.						
Wholesale Prices. Average of Board of Trade Wholesale Prices Index Numbers (Average of 1924 = 100).	1st Qr.	99.9	101.4	88.6	85.7	84.6	83.6	76.9						
	2nd "	98.6	95.8	87.3	84.9	86.1	82.2	73.4						
	3rd "	99.3	93.9	90.2	85.3	83.8	82.1	70.7						
	4th "	102.4	92.0	90.4	84.9	83.1	80.7	67.0						
Cost of Living. Average of Ministry of Labour Cost-of-Living Index Numbers (July, 1914 = 100).	1st Qr.	177.3	178.5	172.2	171.0	165.3	165.2	162.2						
	2nd "	170.5	173.0	168.0	164.2	164.5	160.8	155.0						
	3rd "	172.0	173.8	171.3	165.2	165.2	163.3	156.5						
	4th "	179.7	176.2	177.5	168.5	167.2	166.5	155.5						
Do. expressed as percentage of 1924 average.	1st Qr.	101.4	102.1	98.5	97.8	94.5	94.5	92.7						
	2nd "	97.5	98.9	96.1	93.9	94.1	91.9	88.6						
	3rd "	98.3	99.4	97.9	94.5	94.5	93.4	89.5						
	4th "	102.7	100.7	101.5	96.3	95.6	95.2	88.9						
Export Values of British Manufactures. Value as declared, Million £	1st Qr.	148.2	165.7	152.7	134.3	147.2	145.1	128.4						
	2nd "	153.2	147.0	122.8	136.7	139.4	138.9	110.3						
	3rd "	159.2	149.9	135.2	141.3	144.6	146.2	104.8						
	4th "	158.4	154.0	128.7	151.6	147.7	143.5	96.3						
Value at 1924 Prices, Million £	1st Qr.	149.6	168.4	166.4	155.7	169.2	170.6	155.7						
	2nd "	154.5	144.5	130.3	155.5	161.5	165.4	135.3						
	3rd "	156.9	152.3	146.5	161.1	165.4	170.5	128.6						
	4th "	157.8	162.9	139.8	173.8	171.6	169.9	122.6						
Index Number of Average Values. (Average of 1924 = 100).	1st Qr.	99.1	98.4	91.7	86.3	87.0	85.1	82.4						
	2nd "	99.1	101.7	94.2	87.9	86.3	84.0	81.5						
	3rd "	101.4	98.4	92.3	87.7	87.4	85.7	81.5						
	4th "	100.3	94.5	92.1	87.2	86.1	84.5	78.6						
Shipping Freight Rates. Average of Chamber of Shipping Index* expressed as percentage of 1924 Average.	1st Qr.	106.3	95.5	78.6	103.6	84.2	93.6	63.6						
	2nd "	101.6	82.4	77.8	95.1	82.4	85.1	61.7						
	3rd "	94.0	77.6	97.7	86.9	85.6	83.4	66.2						
	4th "	98.6	87.3	138.0	92.5	96.2	75.0	66.8						
Estimated Total Numbers aged 16-64 insured against Unemployment in Great Britain. Quarterly Averages. Hundred Thousands.	1st Qr.	110.0	112.0	113.7	114.9	115.9	117.9	120.0						
	2nd "	110.5	112.5	114.1	115.2	116.1	118.2	121.2						
	3rd "	110.9	113.0	114.4	115.4	116.9	118.7	121.7						
	4th "	111.5	113.4	114.7	115.7	117.5	119.2	122.3						
Estimated Numbers of insured Persons in Employ- ment in Great Britain (excluding persons unem- ployed, sick or directly involved in trade disputes). Quarterly Averages. Hundred Thousands.	1st Qr.	93.6	95.6	98.0	98.4	100.1	100.3	100.2						
	2nd "	96.2	96.1	88.9	100.8	100.5	102.7	98.7						
	3rd "	95.3	95.1	84.6	100.6	99.7	103.0	96.9						
	4th "	95.5	97.1	90.5	100.3	99.9	102.3	94.8						
Registered Unemployed in Great Britain. Quarterly Averages. Hundred Thousands.	1st Qr.	11.8	12.4	11.4	12.6	11.5	13.5	15.4						
	2nd "	10.3	12.2	13.9	10.3	11.2	11.3	17.6						
	3rd "	11.1	12.9	15.8	10.5	12.9	11.5	20.4						
	4th "	12.0	12.0	14.9	11.1	13.6	12.8	23.0						
Males	1st Qr.	9.1	9.8	9.3	10.3	9.6	11.0	11.7						
	2nd "	8.0	9.9	10.8	8.6	9.3	9.2	13.0						
	3rd "	8.8	10.5	12.3	8.7	10.5	9.2	15.0						
	4th "	9.5	10.0	12.0	9.2	11.0	10.2	17.2						
Females	1st Qr.	2.7	2.6	2.1	2.3	1.9	2.5	3.7						
	2nd "	2.3	2.4	3.1	1.7	1.9	2.2	4.6						
	3rd "	2.4	2.5	3.5	1.8	2.4	2.3	5.4						
	4th "	2.5	2.0	2.9	1.9	2.5	2.6	5.8						
Wholly Unemployed (Males and Females) ...	1st Qr.	Figures not available.		9.3	9.6	8.8	10.8	11.8						
	2nd "			9.0	7.5	8.4	8.8	12.6						
	3rd "			9.6	7.4	9.2	8.7	14.1						
	4th "			10.1	8.3	10.3	10.1	17.3						
Temporarily Stopped (Males and Females) ...	1st Qr.	Figures not available.		2.2	2.9	2.7	2.7	3.6						
	2nd "			4.9	2.8	2.8	2.5	5.0						
	3rd "			6.3	3.1	3.7	2.8	6.3						
	4th "			4.8	2.8	3.2	2.7	5.7						
Index Number of Rates of Wages. (Average of 1924 = 100)	1st Qr.	99	101½	101½	102	100	100	99						
	2nd "	100	102	101	101	100	100	99						
	3rd "	100½	101½	101	101	100	99½	99						
	4th "	101	101½	101	100	100	99	99						
Industrial Production—Board of Trade Index Number	1st Qr.	100		Figures not available.		109.3	110.6	110.9						
	2nd "					103.6	112.0	103.1						
	3rd "					100.2	110.7	99.5						
	4th "					108.4	114.0	...						
Railway Traffic Receipts—Goods. Average amount weekly, Thousand £	1st Qr.	2,039	2,022	2,058	2,127	2,034	2,018	1,999						
	2nd "	1,989	1,884	1,456	2,058	1,866	1,963	1,805						
	3rd "	1,962	1,892	1,222	2,181	1,879	1,955	1,745						
	4th "	2,055	2,016	1,737	2,052	1,955	2,016	1,856						
Percentage of 1924 Average	1st Qr.	101.4	100.5	102.3	105.8	101.1	100.3	99.4						
	2nd "	98.9	93.7	72.4	102.3	92.8	97.6	89.8						
	3rd "	97.6	94.1	60.8	108.4	93.4	97.2	86.8						
	4th "	102.2	100.2	86.4	102.0	97.2	100.2	92.3						
Railway Traffic Receipts—Passenger. Average amount weekly, Thousand £	1st Qr.	1,285	1,333	1,347	1,274	1,258	1,257	1,200						
	2nd "	1,756	1,716	1,381	1,594	1,553	1,505	1,499						
	3rd "	2,306	2,249	1,984	2,204	2,008	1,963	1,838						
	4th "	1,517	1,486	1,383	1,394	1,356	1,355	1,295						
Percentage of 1924 Average	1st Qr.	74.9	77.7	78.5	74.2	73.3	73.3	69.9						
	2nd "	102.3	100.0	80.5	92.9	90.5	87.7	87.4						
	3rd "	134.4	131.1	115.6	128.4	117.0	114.3	107.1						
	4th "	88.4	86.6	80.6	81.2	79.0	79.0	75.5						
Postal Receipts. Average amount daily, Thousand £	1st Qr.	106.9	113.0	118.4	119.4	125.7	124.3	129.0						
	2nd "	112.4	115.4	108.2	122.0	124.9	128.6	130.8						
	3rd "	113.0	116.1	114.2	121.7	125.4	127.8	129.0						
	4th "	126.2	131.1	133.7	139.0	146.3	149.3	148.5						
Percentage of 1924 Average	1st Qr.	93.3	98.6	103.3	104.2	109.7	108.4	112.5						
	2nd "	98.1	100.7	94.4	106.5	108.9	112.2	114.2						
	3rd "	98.6	101.3	99.7	106.1	109.4	111.5	112.5						
	4th "	110.1	114.3	116.6	121.3	127.7	130.3	129.6						
British Exports (Volume, all commodities). Value as declared, Million £	1st Qr.	194.7	208.7	189.6	170.5	181.9	181.2	164.1						
	2nd "	196.5	184.0	148.6	171.9	173.3	177.6	140.7						
	3rd "	201.9	186.6	157.7	176.2	179.7	184.7	136.3						
	4th "	207.8	194.1	157.1	190.6	188.6	186.1	129.4						
Value at 1924 prices, Million £	1st Qr.	195.7	211.2	207.8	196.1	210.5	213.7	200.1						
	2nd "	197.5	183.4	159.6	198.2	201.2	213.3	174.9						
	3rd "	200.5	192.2	172.1	203.5	206.9	218.5	170.1						
	4th "	207.2	208.4	172.5	221.5	219.7	222.3	165.6						
Percentage of 1924 average	1st Qr.	97.7	105.5	103.8	98.0	105.1	106.7	99.9						
	2nd "	98.6	91.6	79.7	99.0	100.5	106.5	87.4						
	3rd "	100.1	96.0	85.9	101.6	103.3	109.1	85.0						
	4th "	103.5	104.1	86.1	110.6	109.7	110.9	82.7						
Net Imports (Volume, all commodities). Value as declared, Million £	1st Qr.	262.3	312.0	284.4	289.5	276.5	275.9	259.0						
	2nd "	261.8	288.1	251.6	261.5	261.3	268.3	233.6						
	3rd "	282.3	252.5	276.6	258.1	256.7	268.5	225.4						
	4th "	331.0	314.1	303.2	286.3	280.8	299.2	240.6						
Value at 1924 prices, Million £	1st Qr.	264.9	310.0	309.3	344.5	316.0	322.6	320.9						
	2nd "	265.0	295.5	280.5	309.8	304.9	312.3	306.1						
	3rd "	284.0	253.7	307.1	291.9	284.3	311.2	296.3						
	4th "	323.6	323.1	338.5	320.6	321.9	352.5	345.1						
Percentage of 1924 average	1st Qr.	93.2	109.0	108.8	121.1	111.1	113.5	112.8						
	2nd "	93.2	103.9	98.6	108.9	107.2	109.8	107.6						
	3rd "	99.9	89.2	108.0	102.6	100.0	109.5	104.2						
	4th "	113.8	113.6	119.0	112.8	113.2	123.6	121.4						
Bank Rate.														
Date of Change and Rate per cent.		No change.	4	5 Mch. 6 Aug. 1 Oct. 3 Dec.	5	No change.	5	21 Apr. 4½	No change.	4½	7 Feb. 26 Sep. 31 Oct. 21 Nov. 12 Dec.	5½	6 Feb. 6 Mch. 20 Mch. 1 May	4½

		1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.
Discount Rate.	1st Qr.	3½	4	4½	4½	4½	5	3½
Three Months' Bank Bills.	2nd "	3½	4½	4½	4½	4½	5½	2½
Quarterly Average, per cent.	3rd "	3½	4	4½	4½	4½	5½	2½
	4th "	3½	4½	4½	4½	4½	5½	2½
Bank Clearings—Country Cheque and Provincial.	1st Qr.	15.4	16.1	15.2	15.3	15.6	15.7	15.0
England and Wales.	2nd "	15.6	15.6	14.0	15.3	15.6	15.2	14.3
Average amount daily, Million £	3rd "	15.0	14.6	13.4	14.7	14.6	14.7	13.2
	4th "	16.1	15.6	14.8	15.7	15.5	15.4	13.6
Percentage of 1924 average	1st Qr.	99.2	103.4	98.1	98.3	100.6	100.9	96.7
	2nd "	100.3	100.5	90.1	98.8	100.5	98.0	92.4
	3rd "	96.8	94.3	86.6	94.6	94.3	94.4	85.2
	4th "	103.7	100.2	95.1	101.4	100.1	99.4	87.7
Coal Mining—Coal Raised.	1st Qr.	23.8	21.9	22.3	22.0	21.4	22.0	22.6
Average quantity of saleable coal raised monthly, Million tons.	2nd "	21.9	19.3	7.3	20.5	18.9	20.5	19.3
	3rd "	21.3	18.7	1.2	20.3	18.4	20.8	18.8
	4th "	22.0	21.2	11.1	20.9	20.4	22.2	20.5
Percentage of 1924 average	1st Qr.	106.7	98.6	100.0	98.8	96.3	98.9	101.7
	2nd "	98.5	86.5	32.7	92.3	85.1	92.0	86.8
	3rd "	95.7	84.0	5.4	91.4	82.9	93.6	84.4
	4th "	98.9	95.0	49.9	93.7	91.8	99.8	92.1
Coal Mining—Coal Exported.*	1st Qr.	5.2	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.0	4.4	5.0
Average quantity of coal exported monthly, Million tons.	2nd "	5.1	4.2	1.9	4.4	4.2	5.0	4.5
	3rd "	5.2	3.9	...	4.2	4.1	5.3	4.4
	4th "	5.0	4.5	0.5	4.1	4.3	5.4	4.4
Percentage of 1924 average	1st Qr.	101.9	85.0	85.6	84.9	78.0	85.2	97.4
	2nd "	100.1	82.7	37.5	85.8	81.5	97.1	87.8
	3rd "	101.6	75.4	0.1	82.2	80.7	104.0	85.8
	4th "	96.4	86.6	10.5	78.9	84.6	104.7	85.1
Coal Mining—Unemployment.	1st Qr.	3.1	10.1	9.7	16.4	17.9	15.9	13.5
Average percentage of insured workers unemployed in Great Britain.	2nd "	3.3	17.5	8.9	18.0	21.6	17.6	20.8
	3rd "	7.6	20.4	8.8	20.3	26.1	16.7	24.9
	4th "	9.1	15.6	9.2	18.2	23.2	14.8	22.4
Iron and Steel—Crude Steel Output.	1st Qr.	759.6	647.4	709.4	835.7	728.0	799.8	791.2
Average quantity monthly, Thousand tons.	2nd "	724.2	611.5	247.1	827.3	701.9	827.8	662.7
	3rd "	621.9	569.2	60.0	702.4	677.9	802.0	551.1
	4th "	634.6	637.7	170.3	667.5	733.9	788.7	427.8
Percentage of 1924 average	1st Qr.	111.2	94.7	103.8	122.3	106.5	117.0	115.8
	2nd "	106.0	89.5	36.2	121.1	102.7	121.1	97.0
	3rd "	91.0	83.3	8.8	102.8	99.2	117.4	80.6
	4th "	92.9	93.3	24.9	97.7	107.4	115.4	62.6
Iron and Steel—Pig Iron Output.	1st Qr.	639.3	574.8	534.7	559.2	568.0	558.0	640.9
Average quantity monthly, Thousand tons.	2nd "	625.7	551.6	223.2	683.8	572.8	641.3	599.1
	3rd "	591.2	462.0	14.7	611.1	503.9	672.8	442.6
	4th "	583.4	490.4	41.3	577.1	542.8	654.4	383.0
Percentage of 1924 average	1st Qr.	105.0	94.4	87.8	91.8	93.3	91.6	105.3
	2nd "	102.8	90.6	36.7	112.3	94.1	105.3	98.4
	3rd "	97.1	75.9	2.4	100.3	85.4	110.5	72.7
	4th "	95.8	80.5	6.8	94.8	89.1	107.5	62.9
Iron and Steel—Unemployment.	1st Qr.	18.2	22.8	20.8	17.5	19.5	18.8	22.9
Average percentage of insured workers unemployed in Great Britain.	2nd "	17.7	24.3	45.3	16.5	20.0	17.8	29.1
	3rd "	22.3	26.5	57.3	17.6	23.2	18.6	35.5
	4th "	23.9	24.0	47.0	20.7	21.2	20.5	44.4
General Engineering—Unemployment.	1st Qr.	17.6	13.3	12.1	12.7	9.7	10.0	12.7
Average percentage of insured workers unemployed in Great Britain.	2nd "	14.9	12.4	15.5	9.9	9.6	9.1	15.1
	3rd "	14.8	12.4	17.7	9.4	10.0	9.5	18.4
	4th "	14.5	11.8	17.5	9.7	9.9	10.1	22.8
Electrical Engineering.	1st Qr.	103.4	85.2	88.0	113.6	92.5	104.1	116.4
Average of Index of Activity (British Electrical and Allied Manufacturers' Assn.) expressed as percentage of 1924 average.†	2nd "	110.4	68.7	92.5	124.8	84.4	105.4	109.0
	3rd "	96.0	78.9	86.6	131.1	84.1	107.6	109.4
	4th "	90.1	86.9	101.3	109.0	98.1	111.1	97.5
Electrical Engineering—Unemployment.	1st Qr.	5.8	5.6	6.6	6.5	4.7	5.1	5.7
Average percentage of insured workers unemployed in Great Britain.	2nd "	5.4	5.6	9.6	5.2	4.8	4.6	7.2
	3rd "	5.0	5.5	8.0	4.7	5.1	4.0	9.1
	4th "	5.3	5.5	6.7	4.4	5.0	4.2	10.9
Shipbuilding—Merchant Vessels under construction at end of Quarter.	1st Qr.	1.47	1.17	0.84	1.22	1.44	1.36	1.61
Million gross tons.	2nd "	1.52	1.09	0.84	1.39	1.20	1.45	1.39
	3rd "	1.47	1.01	0.77	1.54	1.09	1.45	1.12
	4th "	1.30	0.89	0.76	1.58	1.24	1.56	0.91
Percentage of 1924 average	1st Qr.	102.4	81.0	58.6	84.6	100.1	94.3	112.2
	2nd "	105.4	76.0	58.5	96.6	83.6	101.0	96.7
	3rd "	102.0	70.1	53.8	106.8	75.7	100.7	77.6
	4th "	90.1	61.5	52.8	109.8	86.4	108.4	63.2
Shipbuilding—Merchant Vessels commenced during Quarter.	1st Qr.	227.8	202.4	193.1	579.8	341.8	362.4	426.6
Thousand gross tons.	2nd "	375.2	189.8	168.5	437.1	279.0	428.4	230.5
	3rd "	252.7	260.6	68.3	370.1	244.6	360.1	160.7
	4th "	194.6	161.0	152.4	377.5	431.8	499.0	132.0
Percentage of 1924 average	1st Qr.	86.7	77.1	73.5	220.8	130.2	138.0	162.5
	2nd "	142.9	72.3	64.2	166.5	106.2	163.1	87.8
	3rd "	96.3	99.2	26.0	140.9	93.1	137.1	61.2
	4th "	74.1	61.3	58.0	143.8	164.4	190.0	50.3
Shipbuilding, Ship Repairing and Marine Engineering—Unemployment.	1st Qr.	28.1	29.3	34.3	30.1	18.4	23.5	22.4
Average percentage of insured workers unemployed in Great Britain.	2nd "	25.1	29.2	35.3	22.0	21.5	20.1	26.1
	3rd "	25.9	33.1	40.4	20.1	24.1	20.5	31.9
	4th "	28.3	35.3	41.9	19.0	28.8	21.0	43.1
Cotton—Raw Cotton delivered to Mills.	1st Qr.	122.7	155.8	147.8	160.2	137.7	134.6	118.7
Average quantity monthly, million lbs. ...	2nd "	106.4	134.7	106.2	134.5	124.6	129.7	90.8
	3rd "	96.7	113.0	94.1	121.8	105.6	98.3	65.8
	4th "	146.7	152.9	129.1	124.9	133.4	135.5	90.3
Percentage of 1924 average	1st Qr.	104	132	125	136	117	114	101
	2nd "	90	114	90	114	105	110	77
	3rd "	82	96	80	103	89	83	56
	4th "	124	129	109	106	113	113	76
Cotton—Unemployment.	1st Qr.	15.8	6.6	9.1	8.6	9.2	11.6	23.8
Average percentage of insured workers unemployed in Great Britain.	2nd "	15.4	7.7	20.6	6.9	10.9	13.8	37.3
	3rd "	15.1	11.6	25.4	9.6	15.4	14.0	45.5
	4th "	8.9	6.8	17.4	11.1	12.3	13.3	43.0
Wool Textile Industry—Total Wages paid.	1st Qr.	100	Figures not available.	92.0	91.6	96.2	88.8	83.9
Index of total wages paid expressed as percentage of 1924 average.	2nd "	100	Figures not available.	86.8	95.6	95.0	93.3	73.8
	3rd "	100	Figures not available.	84.9	94.9	88.0	88.5	75.7
	4th "	100	Figures not available.	89.2	96.7	91.6	90.6	76.7
Wool Textile Industry—Unemployment.	1st Qr.	7.1	13.1	10.8	10.6	7.7	13.1	21.2
Average percentage of insured workers unemployed in Great Britain.	2nd "	5.1	17.9	18.6	9.2	9.3	12.0	22.8
	3rd "	7.5	17.7	20.7	9.0	15.6	15.2	26.5
	4th "	8.5	9.7	13.9	7.1	14.3	15.1	25.9
Building—Plans Approved.	1st Qr.	15.9	16.0	20.1	16.6	15.9	15.7	18.8
Estimated total value of plans approved in 146 towns, million £.	2nd "	15.1	17.9	16.9	17.2	17.2	22.1	20.2
	3rd "	13.6	16.0	15.9	14.7	14.1	16.4	17.2
	4th "	13.7	16.6	14.8	15.8	17.2	18.9	18.4
Percentage of 1924 average	1st Qr.	108.9	109.6	137.7	113.7	108.9	107.5	128.8
	2nd "	103.4	122.6	115.8	117.8	117.8	151.4	138.4
	3rd "	93.2	109.6	108.9	100.7	117.1	112.3	117.8
	4th "	93.8	113.7	101.4	108.2	117.8	129.5	126.0
Building—Unemployment.	1st Qr.	12.5	11.1	11.3	12.1	14.5	19.1	17.5
Average percentage of insured workers unemployed in Great Britain.	2nd "	8.3	7.4	8.4	6.8	9.7	9.0	12.9
	3rd "	9.8	7.7	9.3	7.6	10.6	9.3	14.5
	4th "	10.9	11.0	12.4	13.4	14.2	15.2	20.4
Public Works Contracting—Unemployment.	1st Qr.	18.4	18.9	18.8	20.1	21.1	26.9	26.9
Average percentage of insured workers unemployed in Great Britain.	2nd "	16.2	16.1	18.1	15.1	17.8	19.5	26.0
	3rd "	16.5	15.0	18.8	15.1	19.2	19.8	28.5
	4th "	18.6	17.9	21.7	19.0	23.2	23.8	29.8

* Coal shipped as bunkers in the Foreign Trade is not included.

† Published by courtesy of the British Electrical and Allied Manufacturers' Association.

INDUSTRY.	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.									GREAT BRITAIN ONLY.		
	WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (Including Casuals).			TEMPORARY STOPPAGES.			TOTAL.			WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED, TEMPORARY STOPPAGES, AND CASUALS.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing ...	89,371	357	89,728	5,433	168	5,601	94,804	525	95,329	88,512	482	88,994
Metal Trades :—												
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Iron Founding ...	13,926	1,394	15,320	6,763	552	7,315	20,689	1,946	22,635	20,547	1,945	22,492
Electrical Wiring and Contracting ...	2,222	57	2,279	234	2	236	2,456	59	2,515	2,342	58	2,400
Electrical Cables, Wire and Lamps ...	6,143	4,791	10,934	1,237	1,069	2,306	7,380	5,860	13,240	7,350	5,859	13,209
Hand Tools, Cutlery, Saws, Files ...	4,744	2,101	6,845	4,777	1,339	6,116	9,521	3,440	12,961	9,508	3,440	12,948
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc.	2,167	2,600	4,767	2,435	1,626	4,061	4,602	4,226	8,828	4,602	4,226	8,828
Brass and Allied Metal Wares ...	2,654	1,930	4,584	1,280	425	1,705	3,934	2,355	6,289	3,930	2,355	6,285
Heating and Ventilating Apparatus ...	903	45	948	343	5	348	1,246	50	1,296	1,243	50	1,293
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc.	2,462	2,598	5,060	1,780	1,464	3,244	4,242	4,062	8,304	4,228	4,061	8,289
Metal Industries not separately specified ...	16,310	12,729	29,039	8,256	3,860	12,116	24,566	16,589	41,155	24,409	16,578	40,987
Textile Trades :—												
Cotton* ...	43,414	99,580	142,994	40,426	64,097	104,523	83,840	163,677	247,517	83,832	163,608	247,440
Woolen and Worsted... ..	11,711	20,274	31,985	16,018	27,332	43,350	27,729	47,606	75,335	27,548	47,479	75,027
Silk Manufacture and Artificial Silk Weaving ...	2,510	4,403	6,913	3,095	7,164	10,259	5,605	11,567	17,172	5,599	11,566	17,165
Artificial Silk Yarn ...	3,452	2,533	5,985	2,069	1,957	4,026	5,521	4,490	10,011	5,439	4,462	9,901
Linen ...	6,468	15,258	21,726	2,499	6,837	9,336	8,967	22,095	31,062	1,323	3,949	5,272
Jute ...	3,420	8,743	12,163	2,594	6,956	9,550	6,014	15,699	21,713	6,014	15,699	21,713
Hemp, Rope, Cord, Twine, etc. ...	1,037	2,279	3,316	413	1,036	1,449	1,450	3,315	4,765	1,307	2,764	4,071
Hosiery ...	1,397	7,079	8,476	2,366	10,785	13,151	3,763	17,864	21,627	3,733	17,750	21,483
Lace ...	583	1,039	1,622	896	1,278	2,174	1,479	2,317	3,796	1,477	2,317	3,794
Carpets ...	690	1,454	2,144	1,776	3,390	5,166	2,466	4,844	7,310	2,466	4,844	7,310
Textiles not separately specified ...	1,661	4,708	6,369	854	3,199	4,053	2,515	7,907	10,422	2,326	6,872	9,198
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc.	12,067	6,650	18,717	19,466	6,358	25,824	31,533	13,008	44,541	30,271	10,951	41,222
Leather and Leather Goods :—												
Tanning, Currying and Dressing ...	3,902	1,510	5,412	2,045	633	2,678	5,947	2,143	8,090	5,941	2,143	8,084
Leather Goods ...	1,747	1,849	3,596	518	978	1,496	2,265	2,827	5,092	2,222	2,820	5,042
Clothing Trades :—												
Tailoring ...	11,887	13,078	24,965	3,012	13,172	16,184	14,899	26,250	41,149	13,880	25,613	39,493
Dress Making and Millinery... ..	1,241	6,793	8,034	64	3,412	3,476	1,305	10,205	11,510	1,273	9,563	10,836
Hats and Caps (including Straw Plait)	1,475	2,090	3,565	871	1,317	2,188	2,346	3,407	5,753	2,345	3,400	5,745
Shirts, Collars, Underclothing, etc.	727	8,236	8,963	109	4,912	5,021	836	13,148	13,984	603	7,160	7,763
Dress Industries not separately specified ...	1,062	1,279	2,341	945	1,030	1,975	2,007	2,399	4,316	1,993	2,307	4,300
Boots, Shoes, Slippers and Clogs ...	10,102	4,729	14,831	9,542	4,532	14,074	19,644	9,261	28,905	19,357	9,232	28,589
Food, Drink and Tobacco :—												
Bread, Biscuits, Cakes, etc....	12,012	6,696	18,708	651	648	1,299	12,663	7,344	20,007	12,044	7,212	19,256
Grain Milling ...	2,454	370	2,824	452	48	500	2,906	418	3,324	2,787	410	3,197
Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Confectionery ...	2,955	6,221	9,176	951	3,073	4,024	3,906	9,294	13,200	3,874	9,268	13,142
Food Industries not separately specified ...	7,398	11,015	18,413	742	1,392	2,134	8,140	12,407	20,547	7,931	12,280	20,211
Drink Industries ...	8,333	4,502	12,835	551	629	1,180	8,884	5,131	14,015	8,385	5,086	13,471
Tobacco, Cigare, Cigarettes and Snuff	1,003	3,059	4,062	515	1,602	2,117	1,518	4,661	6,179	1,450	4,471	5,921
Sawmilling, Furniture and Woodwork :—												
Sawmilling and Machined Woodwork	9,683	270	9,953	1,313	103	1,416	10,996	373	11,369	10,723	372	11,095
Wood Boxes and Packing Cases ...	2,082	343	2,425	804	74	878	2,886	417	3,303	2,823	417	3,240
Furniture Making, Upholstering, etc.	17,504	2,621	20,125	3,355	883	4,238	20,859	3,504	24,363	20,554	3,454	24,008
Woodworking not separately specified ...	2,693	728	3,421	881	307	1,188	3,574	1,035	4,609	3,452	1,020	4,472
Printing and Paper Trades :—												
Paper and Paper Board ...	2,934	1,252	4,186	1,873	806	2,679	4,807	2,058	6,865	4,786	2,049	6,835
Cardboard Boxes, Paper Bags and Stationery ...	1,603	3,636	5,239	258	1,444	1,702	1,861	5,080	6,941	1,825	4,860	6,685
Wall Paper Making ...	318	252	570	79	71	150	397	323	720	397	323	720
Stationery and Typewriting Requisites (not paper) ...	253	321	574	30	85	115	283	406	689	281	406	687
Printing, Publishing and Bookbinding	15,165	9,301	24,466	998	1,901	2,899	16,163	11,262	27,365	15,877	10,842	26,719
Building and Public Works Contracting :—												
Building ...	211,750	393	212,143	12,816	53	12,869	224,566	446	225,012	219,919	441	220,360
Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	61,046	55	61,101	1,930	9	1,939	62,976	64	63,040	60,226	54	60,280
Other Manufacturing Industries :—												
Rubber ...	5,812	4,700	10,512	1,823	1,155	2,978	7,635	5,855	13,490	7,616	5,851	13,467
Oilcloth, Linoleum, etc. ...	1,241	266	1,507	2,926	264	3,190	4,167	530	4,697	4,165	530	4,695
Brushes and Brooms ...	1,352	590	1,942	423	288	711	1,775	878	2,653	1,716	877	2,593
Scientific and Photographic Instruments and Apparatus ...	1,190	707	1,897	188	160	348	1,378	867	2,245	1,373	865	2,238
Musical Instruments ...	3,565	726	4,291	569	170	739	4,134	895	5,030	4,119	896	5,015
Toys, Games and Sports Requisites	839	910	1,749	260	343	603	1,099	1,253	2,352	1,099	1,253	2,352
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply Industries ...	14,020	277	14,297	722	30	752	14,742	307	15,049	14,434	306	14,740
Transport and Communication :—												
Railway Service ...	16,234	568	16,802	1,204	21	1,225	17,438	589	18,027	17,244	585	17,829
Tramway and Omnibus Service ...	8,021	738	8,759	389	21	410	8,410	759	9,169	8,112	754	8,866
Road Transport not separately specified ...	36,440	657	37,097	2,276	19	2,295	38,716	676	39,392	37,714	668	38,382
Shipping Service ...	48,624	881	49,505	449	75	524	49,073	956	50,029	48,167	946	49,113
Dock, Harbour, River and Canal Service ...	66,985	214	67,199	1,338	46	1,384	68,323	260	68,583	67,055	260	67,315
Transport, Communication and Storage not separately specified	2,931	205	3,136	99	16	115	3,030	221	3,251	2,987	221	3,208
Distributive Trades ...	134,137	64,884	199,021	7,198	6,938	14,136	141,335	71,822	213,157	135,677	70,284	205,961
Commerce, Banking, Insurance and Finance ...	9,675	1,812	11,487	164	39	203	9,839	1,851	11,690	9,648	1,830	11,478
Miscellaneous Trades and Services :—												
National Government ...	10,452	1,125	11,577	370	66	436	10,822	1,191	12,013	10,442	1,140	11,582
Local Government ...	42,076	1,162	43,238	1,694	90	1,784	43,770	1,252	45,022	42,029	1,231	43,260
Professional Services ...	4,946	1,932	6,878	244	69	313	5,190	2,001	7,191	5,079	1,956	7,035
Entertainments and Sports ...	12,634	5,253	17,887	352	208	560	12,986	5,461	18,447	12,569	5,393	17,962
Hotel, Boarding House, Club Services	24,521	43,609	68,130	356	1,220	1,576	24,877	44,829	69,706	24,260	44,096	68,356
Laundries, Dyeing and Dry Cleaning	2,988	9,256	12,244	176	1,770	1,946	3,164	11,026	14,190	3,075	10,672	13,747
Industries and Services not separately specified ...	39,857	3,609	43,466	1,591	1,055	2,646	41,448	4,664	46,112	40,057	4,574	44,631
TOTAL ...	1,578,706	465,503	2,044,209	393,281	225,352	618,633	1,971,987	690,855	2,662,842†	1,923,478	657,134	2,580,612

* Exclusive of persons disqualified for benefit by reason of the trade dispute.

† Including 113,044 Casuals (Males, 110,442; Females, 2,602).

NUMBERS INSURED AND PERCENTAGES UNEMPLOYED.

INDUSTRY.	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.															GREAT BRITAIN ONLY. TOTAL PER- CENTAGES AT 26TH JAN., 1931
	ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS AGED 16-64 INCLUSIVE, AT JULY, 1930.			PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT 26TH JANUARY, 1931.									INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-) IN TOTAL PERCENT- AGES AS COMPARED WITH			
				WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (including Casuals).			TEMPORARY STOPPAGES.			TOTAL.						
Males.	Females.	Total.	Males	Fe- males.	Total.	Males	Fe- males.	Total.	Males.	Fe- males.	Total.	22ND DEC., 1930.	27TH JAN., 1930.	21ST JAN., 1929.		
Fishing	27,110	880	27,990	20.7	10.5	20.3	0.5	28.6	1.4	21.2	39.1	21.7	- 0.6	+ 5.3	+ 6.4	21.7
Mining :—																
Coal Mining	1,063,350	6,130	1,069,480	16.1	18.1	16.1	3.4	2.6	3.4	19.5	20.7	19.5	- 0.2	+ 6.6	+ 0.4	19.5
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining, etc.	14,770	20	14,790	25.6	10.0	25.5	7.2	—	7.2	32.8	10.0	32.7	- 2.5	+23.8	+19.3	32.7
Lead, Tin and Copper Mining ...	5,310	40	5,350	59.2	52.5	59.2	5.0	—	4.9	64.2	52.5	64.1	+ 0.9	+39.2	+45.4	64.3
Stone Quarrying and Mining ...	42,980	480	43,460	14.2	5.2	14.1	4.9	0.2	4.9	19.1	5.4	19.0	+ 1.4	+ 6.0	+ 1.4	18.3
Slate Quarrying and Mining ...	10,480	10	10,490	12.2	40.0	12.2	22.1	10.0	22.1	34.3	50.0	34.3	+ 9.1	+24.0	+28.1	34.3
Mining and Quarrying not separately specified	15,350	1,600	16,950	13.1	16.1	13.4	3.9	1.5	3.6	17.0	17.6	17.0	+ 0.5	+ 4.8	+ 4.1	16.6
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pits ...	16,490	200	16,690	14.3	17.0	14.3	5.1	7.5	5.1	19.4	24.5	19.4	+ 2.4	+11.7	+11.1	19.2
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products :—																
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	11,720	100	11,820	23.7	45.0	23.9	5.1	8.0	5.1	28.8	53.0	29.0	- 0.5	+18.5	+12.0	29.0
Artificial Stone and Concrete ...	16,280	1,420	17,700	20.0	9.6	19.2	4.0	2.2	3.8	24.0	11.8	23.0	+ 0.5	+ 6.0	+ 2.6	23.0
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting ...	18,230	860	19,090	15.5	17.4	15.6	7.6	1.2	7.3	23.1	18.6	22.9	+ 4.3	+ 9.8	+12.7	23.1
Brick, Tile, etc., Making	77,250	7,430	84,680	14.2	22.7	15.0	5.1	5.6	5.1	19.3	28.3	20.1	+ 1.8	+ 6.4	+ 5.2	20.2
Pottery, Earthenware, etc.	35,750	42,830	78,580	12.5	14.4	13.5	19.2	24.7	22.2	31.7	39.1	35.7	- 6.2	+15.3	+16.7	35.7
Glass Trades :—																
Glass (excluding Bottles and Scien- tific Glass)	22,390	6,220	28,610	13.1	14.5	13.4	6.3	6.8	6.4	19.4	21.3	19.8	+ 3.3	+ 9.0	+10.2	19.8
Glass Bottles	14,990	2,240	17,230	20.0	13.8	19.2	8.3	3.2	7.7	28.3	17.0	25.9	+ 3.1	+ 9.9	+ 7.0	26.9
Chemicals, etc. :—																
Chemicals	79,610	24,000	103,610	18.0	8.2	15.7	2.2	1.1	2.0	20.2	9.3	17.7	- 0.2	+ 9.8	+10.8	17.6
Explosives	13,060	5,700	18,760	11.1	13.2	11.7	2.2	2.5	2.3	13.3	15.7	14.0	+ 0.9	+ 8.5	+ 8.8	14.0
Paint, Varnish, Red and White Leads	14,340	4,810	19,150	10.6	8.7	10.1	2.0	1.9	2.0	12.6	10.6	12.1	+ 3.4	+ 6.8	+ 6.8	12.1
Oil, Glue, Soap, Ink, Matches, etc....	55,290	21,100	76,390	9.4	9.2	9.3	1.4	2.1	1.7	10.8	11.3	11.0	+ 1.2	+ 3.4	+ 4.5	10.9
Metal Manufacture :—																
Pig Iron (Blast Furnaces)	21,720	180	21,900	30.2	23.3	30.1	6.2	5.6	6.2	36.4	28.9	36.3	+ 0.6	+24.3	+17.6	36.3
Steel Melting and Iron Puddling, Iron and Steel Rolling and Forging	176,420	4,380	180,800	21.5	10.2	21.2	24.5	3.8	24.0	46.0	14.0	45.2	- 5.4	+21.5	+25.0	45.2
Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc.	35,170	3,440	39,610	17.9	16.2	17.8	7.7	2.4	7.2	25.6	18.6	25.0	+ 2.5	+15.2	+14.4	24.9
Tin Plates	27,900	3,720	31,620	15.0	11.8	14.6	31.8	23.8	30.8	46.8	35.6	45.4	-24.8	+17.7	+22.5	45.4
Iron and Steel Tubes	28,160	1,520	29,680	14.2	15.3	14.3	22.1	2.3	21.0	36.3	17.6	35.3	- 1.0	+22.6	+24.3	35.3
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Ropes ...	18,870	4,160	23,030	13.4	14.7	13.6	19.0	4.3	16.4	32.4	19.0	30.0	+ 1.0	+16.6	+18.8	30.0
Engineering, etc. :—																
General Engineering; Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding	542,540	49,710	592,250	17.1	9.5	16.5	8.8	3.8	8.4	25.9	13.3	24.9	+ 0.2	+13.2	+14.0	24.9
Electrical Engineering	69,680	20,180	89,860	10.4	9.9	10.3	4.0	2.5	3.6	14.4	12.4	13.9	+ 2.8	+ 8.7	+ 8.6	13.8
Marine Engineering, etc.	59,050	1,020	60,070	27.4	8.0	27.1	6.7	8.5	6.7	34.1	16.5	33.8	+ 1.5	+23.0	+20.4	34.2
Constructional Engineering	26,860	1,110	27,970	20.3	11.1	20.0	7.3	1.2	7.0	27.6	12.3	27.0	+ 3.1	+15.0	+14.7	27.0
Construction and Repair of Vehicles :—																
Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft Carriages, Carts, etc.	221,620	25,520	247,140	12.4	10.1	12.2	3.7	1.6	3.4	16.1	11.7	15.6	- 0.6	+ 7.9	+ 8.7	15.6
Railway Carriages, Wagons and Tramcars	16,630	2,460	19,090	16.2	9.5	15.3	2.8	0.9	2.6	19.0	10.4	17.9	+ 1.8	+ 6.6	+ 6.7	17.4
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing ...	52,520	1,570	54,090	14.9	6.5	14.7	7.5	6.4	7.5	22.4	12.9	22.2	+ 2.3	+12.8	+10.6	22.2
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing ...	201,530	3,190	204,720	44.3	11.2	43.8	2.7	5.3	2.8	47.0	16.5	46.6	+ 1.5	+23.2	+19.0	46.3
Metal Trades :—																
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Iron Founding	81,730	8,710	90,440	17.0	16.0	16.9	8.3	6.3	8.1	25.3	22.3	25.0	+ 3.1	+12.6	+12.1	24.9
Electrical Wiring and Contracting ...	17,150	1,360	18,510	13.0	4.2	12.3	1.3	0.1	1.3	14.3	4.3	13.6	+ 1.1	+ 6.1	+ 5.8	13.2
Electrical Cables, Wire and Lamps...	62,090	40,530	102,620	9.9	11.8	10.7	2.0	2.7	2.2	11.9	14.5	12.9	+ 2.4	+ 6.5	+ 6.8	12.9
Hand Tools, Cutlery, Saws, Files ...	24,180	11,010	35,190	19.6	19.1	19.5	19.8	12.1	17.3	39.4	31.2	36.8	+ 3.5	+16.9	+21.7	36.8
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc.	14,080	12,210	26,290	15.4	21.3	18.1	17.3	13.3	15.5	32.7	34.6	33.6	- 0.5	+23.0	+22.6	33.6
Brass and Allied Metal Wares ...	17,550	10,910	28,460	15.1	17.7	16.1	7.3	3.9	6.0	22.4	21.6	22.1	+ 2.4	+12.5	+12.3	22.1
Heating and Ventilating Apparatus	8,580	660	9,240	10.5	6.8	10.3	4.0	0.8	3.7	14.5	7.6	14.0	+ 2.6	+ 8.1	+ 8.0	14.0
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc.	22,450	20,370	42,820	11.0	12.8											

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INDUSTRY.	ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS AGED 16-64 INCLUSIVE, AT JULY, 1930.			PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT 26TH JANUARY, 1931.									INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-) IN TOTAL PERCENTAGES AS COMPARED WITH			GREAT BRITAIN ONLY. TOTAL PERCENTAGE AT 26TH JAN., 1931.
				WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (Including Casuals).			TEMPORARY STOPPAGES.			TOTAL.						
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	22ND DEC., 1930.	27TH JAN., 1930.	21ST JAN., 1929.	
Sawmilling, etc. (cont.)																
Furniture Making, Upholstering, etc.	102,360	22,740	125,100	17.1	11.5	16.1	3.3	3.9	3.4	20.4	15.4	19.5	+ 6.2	+10.8	+12.3	19.4
Woodworking not separately specified	18,090	5,510	23,600	14.9	13.2	14.5	4.9	5.6	5.0	19.8	18.8	19.5	+ 1.5	+ 8.0	+ 9.4	19.2
Printing and Paper Trades :—																
Paper and Paper Board ...	40,630	15,430	56,060	7.2	8.1	7.5	4.6	5.2	4.7	11.8	13.3	12.2	- 1.6	+ 7.5	+ 7.8	12.3
Cardboard Boxes, Paper Bags and Stationery ...	19,660	38,680	58,340	8.2	9.4	9.0	1.3	3.7	2.9	9.5	13.1	11.9	+ 2.8	+ 6.5	+ 5.9	11.6
Wall Paper Making ...	4,450	1,850	6,300	7.1	13.6	9.0	1.8	3.9	2.4	8.9	17.5	11.4	+ 5.4	+ 5.4	+ 7.2	11.4
Stationery and Typewriting Requisites (not paper) ...	2,680	3,550	6,230	9.4	9.0	9.2	1.2	2.4	1.9	10.6	11.4	11.1	+ 2.1	+ 6.0	+ 6.1	11.0
Printing, Publishing and Bookbinding	175,130	97,260	272,390	8.7	9.6	9.0	0.5	1.9	1.0	9.2	11.5	10.0	+ 1.8	+ 4.1	+ 4.7	9.9
Building and Public Works Contracting :—																
Building ...	822,770	9,500	832,270	25.7	4.1	25.5	1.6	0.6	1.5	27.3	4.7	27.0	+ 4.3	+ 8.5	+ 7.1	27.0
Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	185,090	1,240	186,330	33.0	4.4	32.8	1.0	0.8	1.0	34.0	5.2	33.8	+ 2.5	+ 6.7	+ 6.7	33.5
Other Manufacturing Industries :—																
Rubber ...	39,850	27,620	67,470	14.6	17.0	15.6	4.6	4.2	4.4	19.2	21.2	20.0	+ 1.1	+ 9.2	+11.9	20.0
Oilcloth, Linoleum, etc. ...	11,780	2,050	13,830	10.5	13.0	10.9	24.9	12.9	23.1	35.4	25.9	34.0	+16.2	+27.9	+27.2	34.0
Brushes and Brooms ...	6,320	4,770	11,090	21.4	12.4	17.5	6.7	6.0	6.4	28.1	18.4	23.9	+ 4.6	+10.1	+12.9	23.6
Scientific and Photographic Instruments and Apparatus ...	16,960	8,940	25,900	7.0	7.9	7.3	1.1	1.8	1.4	8.1	9.7	8.7	+ 1.9	+ 4.9	+ 5.4	8.7
Musical Instruments ...	19,990	6,290	26,280	17.8	11.5	16.3	2.9	2.7	2.8	20.7	14.2	19.1	+ 6.0	+10.1	+13.3	19.1
Toys, Games and Sports Requisites	7,130	6,760	13,890	11.8	13.5	12.6	3.6	5.0	4.3	15.4	18.5	16.9	+ 3.1	+ 8.4	+ 8.8	16.9
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply Industries ...	159,800	6,050	165,850	8.8	4.6	8.6	0.4	0.5	0.5	9.2	5.1	9.1	+ 0.5	+ 2.3	+ 2.4	9.0
Transport and Communication :—																
Railway Service ...	130,710	7,120	137,830	12.4	8.0	12.2	0.9	0.3	0.9	13.3	8.3	13.1	+ 1.4	+ 5.9	+ 4.6	13.0
Tramway and Omnibus Service ...	156,370	6,710	163,080	5.1	11.0	5.4	0.3	0.3	0.2	5.4	11.3	5.6	+ 0.4	+ 1.6	+ 1.8	5.5
Road Transport not separately specified ...	180,610	8,200	188,810	20.2	8.0	19.6	1.2	0.2	1.3	21.4	8.2	20.9	+ 2.5	+ 6.2	+ 7.4	20.7
Shipping Service ...	137,470	6,770	144,240	35.4	13.0	34.3	0.3	1.1	0.4	35.7	14.1	34.7	+ 1.7	+13.6	+15.4	34.9
Dock, Harbour, River and Canal Service ...	167,450	2,340	169,790	40.0	9.1	39.6	0.8	2.0	0.8	40.8	11.1	40.4	+ 5.2	+ 8.4	+ 9.2	40.5
Transport, Communication and Storage not separately specified ...	14,870	2,410	17,280	19.7	8.5	18.1	0.7	0.7	0.7	20.4	9.2	18.8	+ 2.1	+ 5.9	+ 7.2	18.8
Distributive Trades ...	1,063,620	700,770	1,764,390	12.6	9.3	11.3	0.7	0.9	0.8	13.3	10.2	12.1	+ 2.3	+ 4.3	+ 5.2	11.9
Commerce, Banking, Insurance and Finance ...	158,070	74,840	232,910	6.1	2.4	4.9	0.1	0.1	0.1	6.2	2.5	5.0	+ 0.6	+ 1.8	+ 2.2	5.0
Miscellaneous Trades and Services :—																
National Government ...	91,620	20,480	112,100	11.4	5.5	10.3	0.4	0.3	0.4	11.8	5.8	10.7	+ 1.3	+ 2.4	+ 3.2	10.6
Local Government ...	287,590	20,800	308,390	14.6	5.6	14.0	0.6	0.4	0.6	15.2	6.0	14.6	+ 1.2	+ 3.1	+ 3.2	14.3
Professional Services ...	72,650	54,350	127,000	6.8	3.6	5.4	0.3	0.1	0.3	7.1	3.7	5.7	+ 0.8	+ 1.9	+ 2.2	5.6
Entertainments and Sports ...	51,130	26,920	78,050	24.7	19.5	22.9	0.7	0.8	0.7	25.4	20.3	23.6	+ 2.9	+ 8.9	+11.7	23.5
Hotel, Boarding House, Club Services	126,520	224,350	350,870	19.4	19.4	19.4	0.3	0.6	0.5	19.7	20.0	19.9	+ 1.7	+ 7.2	+ 8.8	19.8
Laundries, Dyeing and Dry Cleaning Industries and Services not separately specified ...	28,570	111,920	140,490	10.5	8.3	8.7	0.6	1.6	1.4	11.1	9.9	10.1	+ 0.8	+ 4.3	+ 5.2	9.9
TOTAL ...	8,931,530	3,474,170	12,405,700	17.7	13.4	16.5	4.4	6.5	5.0	22.1	19.9	21.5	+ 1.3	+ 9.1	+ 9.3	21.3

NUMBERS OF INSURED WORKPEOPLE UNEMPLOYED.

PROPORTIONS IN VARIOUS INDUSTRY GROUPS.

In the following Table the numbers of insured workpeople recorded as unemployed in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 26th January, 1931, are analysed so as to show the proportion of the total unemployed classified as belonging to various industry groups :—

Industry Group.	Males.				Females.			
	Number Wholly Unemployed.	Percentage of Total.	Number Temporarily Stopped.	Percentage of Total.	Number Wholly Unemployed.	Percentage of Total.	Number Temporarily Stopped.	Percentage of Total.
Fishing ...	5,601	0.3	137	0.0	92	0.0	252	0.1
Mining ...	189,683	12.0	43,741	11.1	1,454	0.3	198	0.1
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products	8,855	0.6	2,624	0.7	332	0.1	49	0.0
Brick, Tile, etc....	10,997	0.7	3,941	1.0	1,688	0.4	418	0.2
Pottery ...	4,451	0.3	6,864	1.7	6,184	1.3	10,563	4.7
Glass Trades ...	5,915	0.4	2,672	0.7	1,208	0.3	495	0.2
Chemicals, etc. ...	22,469	1.4	3,155	0.8	5,088	1.1	938	0.4
Metal Manufacture	61,669	3.9	66,030	16.8	2,328	0.5	1,360	0.6
Engineering, etc.	121,799	7.7	56,542	14.4	6,944	1.5	2,467	1.1
Vehicles ...	38,086	2.4	12,449	3.2	2,903	0.6	536	0.2
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing	89,371	5.7	5,433	1.4	357	0.1	168	0.1
Metal Trades ...	51,531	3.3	27,105	6.9	28,245	6.1	10,342	4.6
Textile Trades ...	88,410	5.6	92,472	23.5	174,000	37.4	140,389	62.3
Leather ...	5,649	0.4	2,563	0.7	3,359	0.7	1,611	0.7
Boots, Shoes, Slippers and Clogs	10,102	0.6	9,542	2.4	4,729	1.0	4,532	2.0
Clothing Trades...	16,392	1.0	5,001	1.3	31,476	6.8	23,843	10.6
Food, Drink and Tobacco	34,155	2.2	3,862	1.0	31,863	6.8	7,392	3.3
Sawmilling, Furniture and Woodwork ...	31,962	2.0	6,353	1.6	3,962	0.8	1,367	0.6
Printing and Paper	20,273	1.3	3,238	0.8	14,762	3.2	4,307	1.9
Building and Public Works Contracting ...	272,796	17.3	14,746	3.7	448	0.1	62	0.0
Other Manufacturing Industries...	13,999	0.9	6,189	1.6	7,899	1.7	2,380	1.1
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply Industries...	14,020	0.9	722	0.2	277	0.0	30	0.0
Transport and Communication	179,235	11.3	5,755	1.5	3,263	0.7	198	0.1
Distributive Trades	134,137	8.5	7,198	1.8	64,884	13.9	6,938	3.1
Commerce, Banking, etc. ...	9,675	0.6	164	0.0	1,812	0.4	39	0.0
Miscellaneous ...	137,474	8.7	4,783	1.2	65,946	14.2	4,478	2.0
TOTAL ...	1,578,706	100.0	393,281	100.0	465,503	100.0	225,352	100.0

PRINCIPAL VARIATIONS IN NUMBERS UNEMPLOYED.

THE following Table indicates for Great Britain and Northern Ireland the industries in which the numbers of insured persons recorded as unemployed at 26th January, 1931, differed from the figures for 22nd December, 1930, to the extent of 2,500 or more :—

Industry.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Numbers recorded as Unemployed at 26th January, 1931, as compared with 22nd December, 1930.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
Cotton ...	- 5,893	- 14,018	- 19,911
Linen ...	- 2,714	- 8,040	- 10,754
Steel Melting and Iron Puddling, Iron and Steel Rolling and Forging ...	- 9,849	+ 29	- 9,820
Tin Plates ...	- 7,144	- 689	- 7,833
Boots, Shoes, Slippers and Clogs	- 3,399	- 2,467	- 5,866
Pottery, Earthenware, etc. ...	- 1,372	- 3,454	- 4,826
Artificial Silk Yarn ...	- 1,821	- 2,025	- 3,846
Electrical Engineering ...	+ 2,008	+ 496	+ 2,504
Dress Making and Millinery	+ 255	+ 2,299	+ 2,554
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc. and General Ironfounding ...	+ 2,632	+ 170	+ 2,802
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing	+ 2,922	+ 89	+ 3,011
Hosiery ...	+ 524	+ 2,498	+ 3,022
Local Government ...	+ 3,527	+ 93	+ 3,620
Metal Industries not separately specified ...	+ 3,184	+ 1,131	+ 4,315
Road Transport not separately specified ...	+ 4,602	+ 101	+ 4,703
Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	+ 4,719	+ 22	+ 4,741
Printing, Publishing and Bookbinding ...	+ 2,477	+ 2,563	+ 5,040
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc. ...	+ 4,391	+ 1,478	+ 5,869
Hotel, Boarding House, Club Services ...	+ 3,196	+ 2,819	+ 6,015
Jute ...	+ 1,415	+ 5,617	+ 7,032
Tailoring ...	+ 2,795	+ 4,440	+ 7,235
Furniture Making, Upholstering, etc. ...	+ 6,576	+ 1,112	+ 7,688
Dock, Harbour, River and Canal Service ...	+ 8,827	- 27	+ 8,800
Woollen and Worsted ...	+ 2,372	+ 6,452	+ 8,824
Building ...	+ 36,323	+ 80	+ 36,403
Distributive Trades ...	+ 20,182	+ 19,201	+ 39,383
Net Variation for above Industries	+ 80,735	+ 19,970	+ 100,705
Total Net Variation for all Insured Industries ...	+ 125,389	+ 37,673	+ 163,062

COMPOSITION OF UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS: GREAT BRITAIN.

On page 62 an explanation is given of the unemployment statistics published weekly in the Press, and monthly in this GAZETTE. The following Table gives an analysis relating to 26th January, 1931, of the composition of these statistics. Lines 2 to 4 make up the number of persons on the register; while, by omitting the uninsured persons (line 4) and including lines 1 and 5, the number of books lodged, or, in other words, the number of insured persons recorded as unemployed, is obtained:—

	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	Total.
1. Unemployed—Special Schemes ...	3,663	22	372	4	4,061
2. Claims admitted or under consideration	1,782,260	32,622	562,866	25,338	2,403,086
3. Insured non-claimants and claimants disqualified, but maintaining registration	46,463	10,004	17,228	9,041	82,736
4. Uninsured persons on Register ...	22,074	31,550	20,085	33,119	106,828
5. Two months' file ...	44,365	4,079	37,517	4,768	90,729
Persons on Register (lines 2—4) ...	1,850,797	74,176	600,179	67,498	2,592,650
Books Lodged (lines 1—3 and 5) ...	1,876,751	46,727	617,983	39,151	2,580,612

NUMBERS ON THE REGISTERS OF EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES,* AND VACANCIES NOTIFIED AND FILLED.

Numbers on Registers, 29th December, 1930, to 26th January, 1931.

Date.	Great Britain.					Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	Total.	
29th December, 1930	1,895,585	67,141	623,209	57,192	2,643,127	2,724,978
5th January, 1931	1,881,530	70,437	603,676	62,127	2,617,770	2,697,120
12th " "	1,894,662	73,408	602,911	65,187	2,636,168	2,714,351
19th " "	1,868,146	74,029	599,282	66,949	2,608,406	2,687,319
26th " "	1,850,797	74,176	600,179	67,498	2,592,650	2,671,213
Average (4 weeks) ...	1,873,784	73,013	601,512	65,440	2,613,749	2,692,501

Analysis of figures for 26th January, 1931.

—	26th January, 1931.				29th Dec., 1930.
	Persons normally in Regular Employment.		Persons normally in Casual Employment.	Total.	Total.
	Wholly Unemployed.	Temporarily Stopped.			
Great Britain.					
Men ...	1,365,126	378,630	107,041	1,850,797	1,895,585
Boys ...	61,937	11,961	278	74,176	67,141
Women ...	394,842	202,801	2,536	600,179	623,209
Girls ...	53,425	14,051	22	67,498	57,192
Total ...	1,875,330	607,443	109,877	2,592,650	2,643,127

Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Men ...	1,404,412	381,874	110,366	1,896,652	1,941,382
Boys ...	63,224	12,096	278	75,598	68,627
Women ...	416,831	210,695	2,574	630,100	656,156
Girls ...	54,388	14,453	22	68,863	58,813
Total ...	1,938,855	619,118	113,240	2,671,213	2,724,978

Vacancies notified and filled.

(Great Britain and Northern Ireland.)

Week ended	Applications from Employers during Week.	Vacancies Filled.†
29th December, 1930 ...	32,104	31,747
5th January, 1931 ...	44,124	38,796
12th " " ...	52,004	49,606
19th " " ...	45,708	42,842
26th " " ...	40,391	37,281
Average (4 weeks) ...	45,557	42,131

Of the 168,525 vacancies filled, 112,296 were for men, 32,590 for women, and 23,639 for juveniles.

* The term "Employment Exchange," as used in this connection, includes Ministry of Labour Employment Exchanges and Branch Employment Offices, and also Juvenile Employment Bureaux under the control of Local Education Authorities which are exercising powers under Sec. 107 of the Education Act, 1921, and Sec. 6 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1923.

† "Vacancies filled" include certain types of cases (described as Class B placings) in which the work of the Exchanges was limited; for instance, obtaining for an employer former employees, or placing the same men in relief work in alternate weeks. During the four weeks ended 29th December, 1930, the average number of such placings of men and women was 5,887 per week. The average number of placings of casual workers during the four weeks ended 26th January, 1931, was 500 per week.

PERSONS ON THE REGISTERS AT PRINCIPAL TOWNS.

THE following Table shows for each of the Employment Exchange administrative areas, and for the principal towns therein, the number of persons registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland on 26th January, 1931. In certain cases (e.g., Bristol, Birmingham, Sheffield, Liverpool, Glasgow, etc.) the figures cover more than one Exchange area.

Area.	Number of Persons on Register at 26th January, 1931.				Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with 29th Dec., 1930.
	Men.	Women.	Juveniles.	Total.	
London Division ...	201,396	54,068	12,892	268,356	+ 31,102
South-Eastern Division	97,107	19,052	8,355	124,514	+ 11,808
Brighton ...	3,761	890	521	5,172	+ 794
Chatham ...	3,905	631	592	5,128	+ 203
Ipswich ...	3,806	462	350	4,618	+ 1,050
Norwich ...	5,569	1,716	405	7,690	+ 122
Rest of Division ...	80,066	15,353	6,487	101,906	+ 8,639
South-Western Division	104,830	20,689	7,723	133,242	+ 3,370
Bristol ...	18,176	5,625	1,776	25,577	- 821
Plymouth ...	6,754	1,626	382	8,762	+ 205
Portsmouth ...	7,727	1,056	905	9,688	+ 941
Reading ...	2,083	428	414	2,925	+ 170
Southampton ...	8,324	1,009	691	10,024	+ 370
Swindon ...	1,297	338	190	1,825	+ 369
Rest of Division ...	60,469	10,607	3,365	74,441	+ 2,636
Midlands Division	236,743	101,733	17,418	355,894	- 20,957
Birmingham ...	39,062	19,125	2,254	60,441	- 1,081
Coventry ...	7,202	2,361	271	9,834	- 1,677
Cradley Heath ...	6,719	1,955	327	9,001	- 1,110
Derby ...	8,410	2,186	891	11,487	+ 658
Leicester ...	9,073	6,228	300	15,601	- 308
Northampton ...	4,765	2,008	374	7,147	- 1,747
Nottingham ...	12,970	5,758	865	19,593	+ 1,833
Smethwick ...	4,687	2,594	393	7,674	+ 1,614
Stoke-on-Trent ...	19,064	14,347	1,710	35,121	+ 9,716
Walsall ...	6,914	2,876	827	10,617	+ 177
West Bromwich ...	4,179	1,201	307	5,687	+ 317
Wolverhampton ...	9,486	2,573	685	12,744	- 1,064
Rest of Division ...	104,212	38,521	8,214	150,947	- 8,853
North-Eastern Division	408,920	96,339	29,915	535,174	- 20,257
Barnsley ...	5,751	1,141	441	7,333	- 1,790
Bradford ...	19,906	11,994	1,532	33,432	+ 461
Darlington ...	4,443	400	392	5,235	+ 249
Dewsbury ...	3,196	2,478	549	6,223	- 487
Doncaster ...	4,515	745	821	6,081	- 2,323
Gateshead ...	9,591	2,021	1,062	12,674	+ 229
Grimsby ...	4,431	618	444	5,493	+ 215
Halifax ...	5,488	3,963	229	9,680	- 15
Hartlepool ...	10,698	802	776	12,276	+ 637
Huddersfield ...	7,086	4,707	618	12,411	+ 63
Hull ...	15,658	2,254	963	18,875	+ 1,902
Leeds ...	26,379	11,122	1,277	38,778	+ 778
Lincoln ...	4,371	464	397	5,232	+ 215
Middlesbrough ...	17,604	1,164	1,003	19,771	- 1,560
Newcastle-on-Tyne ...	19,231	4,050	1,879	25,160	+ 397
Rotherham ...	7,769	788	538	9,095	- 1,880
Sheffield ...	33,030	9,022	2,558	44,610	- 12,466
South Shields ...	11,164	661	819	12,644	+ 204
Stockton-on-Tees ...	9,922	617	695	11,234	+ 119
Sunderland ...	19,319	2,068	1,390	22,777	- 8
Wakefield ...	4,306	1,704	558	6,568	- 2,015
York ...	4,132	908	477	5,517	- 1,551
Rest of Division ...	160,930	32,648	10,497	204,075	- 1,631
North-Western Division	391,058	223,804	36,889	651,751	- 35,922
Accrington ...	7,175	6,424	690	14,289	- 1,457
Ashton-under-Lyne ...	7,394	5,874	915	14,093	- 288
Barrow ...	4,579	684	464	5,727	- 906
Birkenhead ...	9,402	1,391	963	11,756	+ 739
Blackburn ...	11,653	16,152	1,334	29,139	- 1,887
Blackpool ...	4,324	2,770	492	7,586	- 818
Bolton ...	15,104	9,919	1,370	26,393	- 3,202
Burnley ...	7,725	8,505	428	16,658	- 3,610
Bury ...	4,324	4,312	437	9,073	- 719
Chorley ...	4,189	3,163	400	7,752	- 436
Liverpool ...	71,797	15,251	6,419	93,467	+ 6,965
Manchester ...	42,663	21,806	3,807	68,276	- 620
Nelson ...	3,594	3,625	377	7,596	- 1,220
Oldham ...	24,191	15,903	1,903	41,997	+ 22
Preston ...	8,314	8,510	710	17,534	+ 78
Rochdale ...	9,584	6,278	709	16,571	- 3,219
St. Helens ...	6,424	1,181	433	8,038	+ 224
Salford ...	16,778	8,688	1,598	27,064	- 1,167
Stockport ...	6,630	5,829	439	12,898	- 486
Warrington ...	5,461	1,308	656	7,425	- 1,201
Wigan ...	8,233	4,675	888	13,796	- 816
Rest of Division ...	111,610	71,556	11,457	194,623	- 23,534
Scotland Division	246,201	73,557	18,869	338,627	- 10,058
Aberdeen ...	6,502	1,837	472	8,811	- 409
Clydebank ...	5,713	961	362	7,036	- 2,839
Dundee ...	12,496	14,370	1,465	28,331	- 5,241
Edinburgh ...	17,547	4,300	1,149	22,996	+ 1,305
Glasgow ...	84,223	21,541	6,660	112,424	+ 1,347
Greenock ...	9,942	1,828	783	12,553	- 251
Motherwell ...	6,184	497	398	7,079	- 942
Paisley ...	4,860	1,418	326	6,604	+ 333
Rest of Division ...	98,734	26,805	7,254	132,793	- 3,361
Wales Division	164,542	10,937	9,613	185,092	- 10,063
Cardiff ...	15,054	2,427	1,147	18,628	+ 1,319
Llanelli ...	6,239	506	425	7,170	- 1,745
Newport ...	9,666	569	527	10,762	+ 266
Swansea ...	9,834	866	1,014	11,714	- 238
Rest of Division ...	123,749	6,569	6,500	136,818	- 9,665
Northern Ireland	45,855	29,921	2,787	78,563	- 3,288
Belfast ...	25,874	18,239	1,791	45,904	- 2,705
Londonderry ...	2,618	1,138	89	3,845	- 176
Lurgan ...	1,184	1,909	102	3,195	- 243
Lisburn ...	1,256	975	83	2,314	- 5
Newry ...	1,543	312	30	1,885	- 4
Rest of Northern Ireland ...	13,380	7,348	692	21,420	- 155
Great Britain and Northern Ireland ...	1,896,652	630,100	144,461	2,671,213	- 53,765

[Percentage rates of unemployment, for each of 700 towns in Great Britain, are given in the monthly "Local Unemployment Index."]

JUVENILE UNEMPLOYMENT
STATISTICS.JUVENILES IN ATTENDANCE AT APPROVED COURSES OF INSTRUCTION
DURING WEEK ENDED 28TH JANUARY, 1931.

Division.	London.	South-Eastern.	South-Western.	Midland.	North-Eastern.	North-Western.	Scotland.	Wales.	Great Britain.
A.—JUNIOR INSTRUCTION CENTRES AND CLASSES.									
No. of Centres open:									
For Boys ...	1	-	-	3	18	14	14	16	66
For Girls ...	-	-	-	1	6	8	7	2	24
Mixed ...	4	2	2	4	2	6	2	1	23
No. of Classes open:									
For Boys ...	-	-	3	1	3	1	4	-	12
For Girls ...	-	-	1	1	-	1	2	-	5
Mixed ...	-	1	-	1	2	-	-	-	4
Average daily attendance:									
(a) As a condition for receipt of benefit:									
Boys ...	688	364	367	1,133	3,329	3,500	1,716	1,235	12,332
Girls ...	374	311	198	669	766	2,433	888	108	5,747
(b) Others:									
Boys ...	-	4	48	55	840	334	48	1,189	2,518
Girls ...	-	16	32	22	87	211	23	235	626
(c) Total:									
Boys ...	688	368	415	1,188	4,169	3,834	1,764	2,424	14,850
Girls ...	374	327	230	691	853	2,644	911	343	6,373
Separate individuals who have attended since 1st April, 1930	7,192	2,186	3,076	8,696	20,486	24,387	13,949	11,436	91,408

B.—JUVENILES ATTENDING APPROVED COURSES IN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, MAINLY IN THE EVENING.

No. of Institutions to which unemployed juveniles were admitted:									
For Boys ...	-	-	8	38	6	-	12	3	67
For Girls ...	-	-	4	25	9	-	2	12	52
Mixed ...	-	7	12	45	15	-	15	2	96
Average daily attendance:									
Boys ...	-	55	45	376	237	-	113	16	842
Girls ...	-	36	82	383	203	-	75	59	838
Total ...	-	91	127	759	440	-	188	75	1,680
Separate individuals who have attended since 1st April, 1930*	-	217	399	2,336	657	-	351	118	4,078

C.—TOTALS.

Average daily attendance:									
Boys ...	688	423	460	1,564	4,406	3,834	1,877	2,440	15,692
Girls ...	374	363	312	1,074	1,056	2,644	986	402	7,211
Total No. of individuals who have attended since 1st April, 1930 ...	7,192	2,403	3,475	11,032	21,143	24,387	14,300	11,554	95,486

JUVENILES AGED 14 AND UNDER 18 ON THE REGISTER AT 26TH JANUARY, 1931.

Division.	Boys.			Girls.		
	Insured 16 and under 18.	Uninsured 14 and under 18.	Total.	Insured 16 and under 18.	Uninsured 14 and under 18.	Total.
London ...	3,897	3,262	7,159	2,820	2,913	5,733
South-Eastern ...	2,287	1,906	4,193	2,001	2,161	4,162
South-Western ...	1,889	1,968	3,857	1,684	2,182	3,866
Midlands ...	5,024	3,256	8,280	5,529	3,609	9,138
North-Eastern ...	9,056	6,803	15,859	5,963	8,093	14,056
North-Western ...	10,540	8,106	18,646	10,531	7,712	18,243
Scotland ...	6,531	3,558	10,089	4,799	3,981	8,780
Wales ...	3,402	2,691	6,093	1,052	2,468	3,520
Great Britain ...	42,626	31,550	74,176	34,379	33,119	67,498

JUVENILES PLACED IN EMPLOYMENT. FOUR WEEKS ENDED 29TH DECEMBER, 1930.

Division.	Number of Vacancies Filled.			Juveniles placed in first situation since leaving School.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
London ...	3,125	2,664	5,789	696	704	1,400
South-Eastern ...	606	581	1,187	134	140	274
South-Western ...	735	551	1,286	181	127	308
Midlands ...	1,094	998	2,092	316	407	723
North-Eastern ...	1,061	1,316	2,377	268	338	606
North-Western ...	1,050	1,224	2,274	349	350	699
Scotland ...	675	838	1,513	169	184	353
Wales ...	292	257	549	80	96	176
Great Britain ...	8,638	8,429	17,067	2,193	2,346	4,539

* Claimants only.

† Excluding unemployed boys and girls without claims known to be voluntary attendance at evening classes.

PERCENTAGE RATES OF UNEMPLOYMENT* AMONG INSURED JUVENILES AGED 16 AND 17.

Division.	Estimated number insured at July, 1930.		Percentage Unemployed at 26th January, 1931.					
			Boys.			Girls.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Wholly unemployed.	Temporarily stopped.	Total.	Wholly unemployed.	Temporarily stopped.	Total.
London ...	116,770	105,050	4.1	0.1	4.2	3.5	0.1	3.6
South-Eastern ...	47,710	32,560	4.9	0.5	5.4	6.0	1.3	7.3
South-Western ...	44,940	29,960	4.3	0.5	4.8	5.5	1.4	6.9
Midlands ...	91,380	76,550	3.3	2.6	5.9	3.5	4.4	7.9
North-Eastern ...	102,190	60,770	6.8	2.7	9.5	6.7	4.4	11.1
North-Western ...	90,280	80,510	8.2	4.3	12.5	7.8	3.2	10.6
Scotland ...	64,260	51,450	9.3	1.8	11.1	7.4	3.2	10.6
Wales ...	32,470	9,150	7.3	4.0	11.3	11.2	2.8	14.0
Special Schemes ...	5,000	3,000	0.4	-	0.4	0.1	-	0.1
Great Britain ...	595,000	449,000	5.9	2.0	7.9	5.6	3.1	8.7

WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED BENEFIT CLAIMANTS.**ANALYSIS ACCORDING TO LENGTH OF TIME ON THE REGISTER.**

The following Tables give an analysis of the claimants for unemployment benefit who were out of a situation and were on the Register of Employment Exchanges at 26th January, 1931, according to the length of time they had been on the Register since they last became unemployed. While the figures give an indication of the number classified as wholly unemployed who have had recent employment, they do not purport to show the extent to which these individuals have experienced unemployment over an extended period.

	Number who had been on the Register						Total.
	Not more than 1 week.	1 week and not more than 2 weeks.	2 weeks and not more than 3 weeks.	3 weeks and not more than 4 weeks.	Total, 4 weeks or less.	More than 4 weeks.	
Men: 21-64 ...	67,197	56,102	53,448	53,968	230,715	967,028	1,197,743
Young men: 18-20 ...	6,567	6,040	5,648	5,675	23,930	82,528	106,458
Boys: 16-17 ...	2,152	1,748	1,685	1,471	7,056	13,576	20,632
Women: 21-64 ...	10,039	10,522	10,541	11,089	42,191	267,243	309,434
Young women: 18-20 ...	3,224	3,048	3,197	3,279	12,748	39,472	52,220
Girls: 16-17 ...	1,496	1,048	981	1,091	4,616	6,825	11,441
Total ...	90,675	78,508	75,500	76,573	321,256	1,376,672	1,697,928

	Percentage who had been on the Register						Total.
	Not more than 1 week.	1 week and not more than 2 weeks.	2 weeks and not more than 3 weeks.	3 weeks and not more than 4 weeks.	Total, 4 weeks or less.	More than 4 weeks.	
Men: 21-64 ...	5.6	4.7	4.5	4.5	19.3	80.7	100.0
Young men: 18-20 ...	6.2	5.7	5.3	5.3	22.5	77.5	100.0
Boys: 16-17 ...	10.4	8.5	8.2	7.1	34.2	65.8	100.0
Women: 21-64 ...	3.2	3.4	3.4	3.6	13.6	86.4	100.0
Young women: 18-20 ...	6.2	5.8	6.1	6.3	24.4	75.6	100.0
Girls: 16-17 ...	13.1	9.1	8.6	9.5	40.3	59.7	100.0
Total ...	5.3	4.6	4.5	4.5	18.9	81.1	100.0

INSURED PERSONS ON EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGE REGISTERS.**POSITION UNDER FIRST STATUTORY CONDITION.**

The following Table gives an analysis of the numbers of insured persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges at 26th January, 1931, relative to their position with regard to the First Statutory Condition for the receipt of unemployment benefit, in all cases in which the position under that condition had been determined. In addition, there were on the registers at the same date 88,802 claims in which the position under the First Statutory Condition had not been determined, and on the assumption that the proportion of such cases in which the condition was satisfied was the same as among those in which the position had been determined, it may be estimated that of this number 73,750 will have satisfied the condition and 15,052 will have failed to satisfy it. This condition requires the payment of not less than 30 contributions in the preceding two years. In cases where this condition is not

* Based on the numbers of Juvenile Unemployment Books lodged at Local Offices, which exceed the numbers of insured juveniles on the Register.

satisfied, adults, but not boys and girls, may receive benefit conditionally upon the fulfilment of the special "transitional" conditions set out in Section 14 (2) of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1927, as amended by the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1930.

The persons classified in the Table as "insured non-claimants" consist, in the case of adults, almost entirely of individuals who have failed to satisfy not only the first statutory condition, but also the "transitional" conditions. In the case of boys and girls they consist of individuals who have not satisfied the first statutory condition.

Numbers.

Position with regard to First Statutory Condition.	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	Total.
Wholly unemployed claimants:					
Condition satisfied...	961,735	18,964	276,552	10,468	1,267,719
Not satisfied ...	300,900	...	70,740	...	371,640
Total ...	1,262,635	18,964	347,292	10,468	1,639,359
Temporarily stopped claimants:					
Condition satisfied...	350,729	10,872	186,596	12,554	560,751
Not satisfied ...	9,058	...	5,706	...	14,764
Total ...	359,787	10,872	192,302	12,554	575,515
Casual claimants:					
Condition satisfied...	98,077	264	2,274	21	100,636
Not satisfied ...	7,365	...	191	...	7,556
Total ...	105,442	264	2,465	21	108,192
Insured non-claimants:					
Condition satisfied...	...	...	...	...	...
Not satisfied ...	39,316	9,894	12,851	8,868	70,929
Total ...	39,316	9,894	12,851	8,868	70,929
Total:					
Condition satisfied	1,410,541	30,100	465,422	23,043	1,929,106
Not satisfied ...	356,639	9,894	89,488	8,868	464,889
Total ...	1,767,180	39,994	554,910	31,911	2,393,995

Percentages.

Wholly unemployed claimants:					
Condition satisfied...	76.2	100.0	79.6	100.0	77.3
Not satisfied ...	23.8	...	20.4	...	22.7
Total ...	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Temporarily stopped claimants:					
Condition satisfied...	97.5	100.0	97.0	100.0	97.4
Not satisfied ...	2.5	...	3.0	...	2.6
Total ...	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Casual Claimants:					
Condition satisfied...	93.0	100.0	92.3	100.0	93.0
Not satisfied ...	7.0	...	7.7	...	7.0
Total ...	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Insured non-claimants:					
Condition satisfied...	...	...	...	...	...
Not satisfied ...	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total ...	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total:					
Condition satisfied	79.8	75.3	83.9	72.2	80.6
Not satisfied ...	20.2	24.7	16.1	27.8	19.4
Total ...	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

DETERMINATION OF CLAIMS TO UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT IN GREAT BRITAIN.

9TH DECEMBER, 1930, TO 12TH JANUARY, 1931.

THE following Table gives for the period from 9th December, 1930, to 12th January, 1931, inclusive, the number of claims to benefit made at local offices in Great Britain, the average number of claims current during that period, an analysis of the decisions of Courts of Referees and of the Umpire, the number of cases disallowed by Insurance Officers under the trade dispute disqualification, and of the appeals against such disallowances dealt with by Courts of Referees.

A.—Number of Claims.

	Men.	Women.	Juveniles.	Total.
Fresh and renewal claims made ...	1,047,047	337,522	61,576	1,446,145
Average number of claims current	1,760,293	554,008	55,538	2,369,839

B.—Decisions of Courts of Referees.

Ground on which referred.	Benefit Allowed.	Benefit Dis-allowed.	Total.
First Statutory Condition (applies to juveniles only) ...	21	778	799
Less than 8 contributions paid in past 2 years and less than 30 contributions paid at any time (Sec. 14 (2), U.I. Act 1927) ...	Men ... 50 Women ... 38 Total ... 88	372 148 520	422 186 608
Not normally insurable and will not normally seek to obtain livelihood by means of insurable employment ...	Men ... 4,616 Women ... 3,099 Juveniles ... Total ... 7,715	8,783 6,833 ... 15,616	13,399 9,932 ... 23,331
Employment left voluntarily without just cause ...	Men ... 2,141 Women ... 1,394 Juveniles ... 252 Total ... 3,787	2,974 2,690 584 6,248	5,115 4,084 836 10,035
Employment lost through misconduct ...	Men ... 1,925 Women ... 807 Juveniles ... 229 Total ... 2,961	2,625 960 553 4,138	4,550 1,767 782 7,099
Failure or refusal to apply for or accept suitable employment, or failure to carry out written directions... ..	Men ... 487 Women ... 810 Juveniles ... 46 Total ... 1,343	961 3,314 316 4,591	1,448 4,124 362 5,934
Not unemployed ...	Men ... 743 Women ... 131 Juveniles ... 15 Total ... 889	2,332 621 106 3,059	3,075 752 121 3,948
Not capable of work, or not available for work ...	Men ... 347 Women ... 568 Juveniles ... 9 Total ... 924	448 1,417 46 1,911	795 1,985 55 2,835
Other grounds ...	Men ... 430 Women ... 94 Juveniles ... 51 Total ... 575	1,686 448 295 2,429	2,116 542 346 3,004
Total ...	Men ... 10,739 Women ... 6,941 Juveniles ... 623 Grand Total ... 18,303	20,181 16,431 2,678 39,290	30,920 23,372 3,301 57,593

C.—Trade Dispute* Cases.

	Benefit Allowed.	Benefit Dis-allowed.	Total.
Cases dealt with by Insurance Officers ...	509	1,827	2,336
Appeals against disallowances by Insurance Officers dealt with by Courts of Referees ...	Men ... 36 Women ... 2 Juveniles ... Total Appeals ... 38	71 5 ... 76	107 7 ... 114

D.—Decisions by Umpire.*

	Benefit Allowed.	Benefit Dis-allowed.	Total.
Appeals by Insurance Officers ...	Men ... 113 Women ... 83 Juveniles ... 1 Total ... 197	213 167 3 383	326 250 4 580
Appeals by Associations ...	Men ... 54 Women ... 18 Juveniles ... 1 Total ... 73	200 92 2 294	254 110 3 367
Appeals by Claimants ...	Men ... 158 Women ... 36 Juveniles ... 1 Total ... 195	394 167 7 568	552 203 8 763
Total ...	Men ... 325 Women ... 137 Juveniles ... 3 Grand Total ... 465	807 426 12 1,245	1,132 563 15 1,710

* The decisions of Courts of Referees, and of the Umpire, on trade dispute disallowances refer largely to test cases. The total number of individuals affected by such decisions may be considerably in excess of the figures shown in the Table.

CUMULATIVE FIGURES, 13TH MARCH, 1930, TO 12TH JANUARY, 1931.

	Benefit Allowed.	Benefit Dis-allowed.	Total.
Decisions of Courts of Referees.			
First Statutory Condition (applies to juveniles only) ...	127	5,668	5,795
Less than 8 contributions paid in past 2 years and less than 30 contributions paid at any time (Sec. 14 (2), U.I. Act, 1927) ...	1,045	10,110	11,155
Not normally insurable and will not normally seek to obtain livelihood by means of insurable employment ...	71,095	168,714	239,809
Employment left voluntarily without just cause ...	42,873	70,622	113,495
Employment lost through misconduct ...	29,530	41,755	71,285
Failure or refusal to apply for or accept suitable employment, or failure to carry out written directions ...	12,458	38,708	51,166
Not unemployed ...	7,724	26,631	34,355
Not capable of work, or not available for work ...	6,834	13,224	20,058
Other grounds ...	6,318	19,676	25,994
Total ...	178,004	395,108	573,112
Trade Dispute* Cases.			
Cases dealt with by Insurance Officers ...	2,062	18,042	20,104
Appeals against disallowances by Insurance Officers dealt with by Courts of Referees...	831	2,385	3,216
Decisions by Umpire.*			
Appeals by Insurance Officers ...	2,171	4,655	6,826
Appeals by Associations ...	839	1,893	2,732
Appeals by Claimants ...	1,433	5,033	6,466
Total ...	4,443	11,581	16,024

UNEMPLOYMENT FUND.

The following Table shows *approximately* the receipts and payments and the liabilities of the Fund:—

	Five weeks ended 31st January, 1931.	Four weeks ended 27th December, 1930.	Four weeks ended 25th January, 1930.
	£	£	£
Contributions received from:—			
Employers ...	1,580,000	1,095,000	1,270,000
Employed Persons ...	1,335,000	940,000	1,060,000
Exchequer (including additional Exchequer contribution in respect of Transitional Benefit (U.I. Act, 1930))...	3,600,000	2,740,000	1,170,000
Total ...	6,515,000	4,775,000	3,500,000
Unemployment Benefit ...			
Cost of Administration ...	10,890,000	7,695,000	4,230,000
Interest accrued on Treasury Advances ...	630,000	505,000	410,000
Other Items ...	290,000	215,000	150,000
Total ...	11,840,000	8,420,000	4,800,000
Treasury Advances outstanding ...	65,040,000	59,990,000	38,940,000
Other Liabilities (net), including accrued interest and deposits ...	1,055,000	780,000	720,000

A detailed account of the Fund is presented to Parliament annually. (See House of Commons Paper No. 25 of 1931 for the period ended 31st March, 1930.)

ASSISTED PASSAGES UNDER THE EMPIRE SETTLEMENT ACT, 1922.

THE following statistics relate to assisted passages from Great Britain and Northern Ireland in connection with agreed schemes under the Empire Settlement Act. The figures include both applicants and dependants of applicants to whom assisted passages have been granted. Approvals subsequently cancelled have been excluded. The figures are provisional and subject to revision.

Destination.	Applications Approved.		Departures.	
	Jan., 1931.	1922 to 1930.	Jan., 1931.	1922 to 1930.
Australia ...	24	172,620	16	171,935
Canada ...	250	131,371	174	127,525
New Zealand ...	80	45,254	125	44,198
Africa and other parts of Empire ...	8	1,159	6	978
Total ...	362	350,404	321	344,636

* The decisions of Courts of Referees, and of the Umpire, on trade dispute disallowances refer largely to test cases. The total number of individuals affected by such decisions may be considerably in excess of the figures shown in the Table.

POOR RELIEF IN JANUARY, 1931.

(Data supplied by the Ministry of Health in England and Wales and the Department of Health in Scotland.)

OWING to the alterations made by the Local Government Acts of 1929, which took effect in England and Wales on 1st April, 1930, and in Scotland on 16th May, 1930, comparable statistics are available only from those dates.

The statistics which appear in the Table below relate to the County of London and to those County Boroughs in England and Wales and Burghs in Scotland having an estimated population exceeding 100,000.

The number of persons* relieved on one day† in January, 1931, in the forty-seven selected areas named below was 580,577, or 5.3 per cent. more than in the previous month. The numbers relieved at these two dates were equivalent, respectively, to rates of 350 and 332 per 10,000 of the estimated population.

In the forty-three selected areas in England and Wales the number of persons relieved in January, 1931, was 487,816, an increase of 5.7 per cent. as compared with December, 1930. In the four areas in Scotland the number relieved was 92,761, an increase of 2.9 per cent. as compared with December, 1930.

Recipients of indoor relief in the forty-seven areas in January numbered 122,003, or 3.8 per cent. more than in the previous month. Recipients of outdoor relief numbered 458,574, or 5.7 per cent. more than in the previous month.

	Number of Persons* in receipt of Poor Relief on one day† in January, 1931.				Increase (+) or Decrease (–) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with Dec., 1930.
	Indoor.	Outdoor.	Total.	Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population.	
ENGLAND AND WALES.					
County of London	52,723	93,199	145,922	329	+ 21
Birkenhead ...	937	3,940	4,877	309	+ 13
Birmingham ...	5,783	14,168	19,951	206	+ 12
Blackburn ...	888	2,470	3,358	268	+ 13
Bolton ...	965	2,723	3,688	203	+ 11
Bradford ...	1,308	6,472	7,780	269	+ 20
Brighton ...	1,125	2,082	3,207	218	+ 15
Bristol ...	2,250	6,606	8,856	227	+ 10
Burnley ...	592	2,221	2,813	281	+ 52
Cardiff ...	1,637	7,320	8,957	400	+ 28
Coventry ...	461	1,419	1,880	116	+ 2
Croydon ...	1,098	1,912	3,010	135	+ 16
Derby ...	823	5,886	6,709	477	+ 29
East Ham ...	656	2,430	3,086	209	+ 16
Gateshead ...	785	6,152	6,937	566	+ 10
Huddersfield ...	544	1,413	1,957	173	+ 4
Kingston-upon-Hull	1,885	15,072	16,957	565	+ 28
Leeds ...	2,961	11,460	14,421	301	+ 11
Leicester ...	799	4,214	5,013	204	+ 1
Liverpool ...	8,020	37,704	45,724	526	+ 38
Manchester ...	4,186	28,709	32,895	441	+ 28
Middlesbrough ...	603	3,471	4,074	307	...
Newcastle-on-Tyne	1,070	12,989	14,059	495	+ 14
Norwich ...	900	5,349	6,249	498	+ 19
Nottingham ...	1,913	8,747	10,660	400	+ 30
Oldham ...	966	1,079	2,045	144	+ 6
Plymouth ...	535	5,420	5,955	279	+ 9
Portsmouth ...	1,442	2,327	3,769	144	+ 4
Preston ...	784	828	1,612	128	+ 18
St. Helens ...	542	4,022	4,564	418	+ 42
Salford ...	1,844	4,633	6,477	275	+ 1
Sheffield ...	1,946	25,647	27,593	532	+ 14
Southampton ...	1,419	2,435	3,854	224	+ 2
Southend-on-Sea ...	318	1,329	1,647	144	+ 16
South Shields ...	769	3,157	3,926	328	+ 12
Stockport ...	662	1,132	1,794	140	+ 7
Stoke-on-Trent ...	1,873	4,650	6,523	234	+ 3
Sunderland ...	1,179	7,839	9,018	490	– 3
Swansea ...	746	5,383	6,129	377	+ 12
Wallasey ...	279	1,057	1,336	131	+ 4
Walsall ...	685	3,200	3,885	388	+ 17
West Ham... ..	2,378	9,969	12,347	401	+ 24
Wolverhampton ...	645	1,617	2,262	168	+ 5
Total of the above-named County Boroughs ...	61,241	280,653	341,894	330	+ 16
Total, County of London and Selected County Boroughs ...	113,964	373,852	487,816	330	+ 18
SCOTLAND.					
Glasgow	5,250	63,466	68,716	639	+ 19
Edinburgh	1,573	15,711	17,284	404	+ 9
Dundee	738	3,043	3,781	226	+ 16
Aberdeen	478	2,502	2,980	189	– 2
Total for the above Scottish Burghs	8,039	84,722	92,761	508	+ 15
TOTAL for above 47 areas in January, 1931.	122,003	458,574	580,577	350	+ 18

* The figures include dependants, but exclude persons in receipt of outdoor medical relief only and casuals. In England and Wales, patients in mental hospitals (formerly referred to as lunatics in asylums) and in Scotland, lunatics and mental defectives, are also excluded.

† 31st January in England and Wales and 15th January in Scotland.

EMPLOYMENT OVERSEAS.

[N.B.—The following paragraphs include an abstract of such official information as is available with regard to the state of employment abroad, in order to indicate, as far as possible, the fluctuations in employment in each country from period to period. The bases of the official statistics published in the various countries are, however, not the same as those of the statistics relating to this country; and therefore the figures quoted below cannot properly be used with those on pp. 53–54 to compare the actual level of employment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland with that of other countries. For details of the bases of the unemployment statistics of the various countries, reference should be made to the Reports on Statistics of Unemployment issued by the International Labour Office (Studies and Reports, Series C., No. 7, and Series N., No. 7).]

GERMANY.*

Notwithstanding the favourable influence of Christmas trade in certain industries, the economic situation as a whole became worse in December, and unemployment increased.

The total number of persons reported by the Employment Exchanges as available for and seeking work at the end of December was 4,438,910, as compared with 3,763,408 at the end of November, and with 2,894,798 at the end of December, 1929. On 31st January, 1931, the total was 4,953,174 (provisional figure).

The total number of persons reported by the Employment Exchanges as unemployed was 4,383,843 at the end of December, 3,698,946 at the end of November, and 2,850,849 at the end of December, 1929. On 31st January, 1931, the provisional total was 4,894,000.

On the last day of December 2,165,737 persons were in receipt of standard unemployment benefit, and 667,001 in receipt of emergency benefit, giving a total of 2,832,738, as compared with 2,353,980 at the end of November, and with 1,984,811 at the end of December, 1929. The number in receipt of standard and emergency benefit on 31st January, 1931, was 3,365,104 (provisional figure).

Returns were received from national trade unions relating to 4,445,443 organised workpeople. Of these 1,407,883, or 31·7 per cent., were unemployed on 27th December, as against 26·0 per cent. on 29th November, and 20·1 per cent. at the end of December, 1929. In addition, 749,335 members, or 16·9 per cent., were working short time, as compared with 16·1 per cent. at the end of November, and 8·5 per cent. at the end of December, 1929.

The following Table gives particulars of total unemployment and short time in the various groups of trades represented in the above total:—

Groups of Trade Unions.	Membership reported on at end of Dec. 1930.	Percentage Wholly Unemployed and on Short Time at end of month.			
		Wholly Unemployed.		On Short Time.	
		Dec. 1930.	Nov. 1930.	Dec. 1930.	Nov. 1930.
Mining	144,900	9·9	8·9	24·7	21·0
Quarrying, stone, brick, pottery, etc. ...	228,400	51·7	41·6	12·3	12·9
Engineering and metal ...	1,020,400	26·8	24·3	25·8	24·3
Chemical	115,700	21·6	19·2	19·8	19·3
Textile	347,300	20·3	18·7	43·3	41·9
Paper	119,900	20·2	17·6	21·5	19·2
Leather	65,600	33·2	27·9	24·7	23·1
Wood	305,600	45·4	37·5	13·5	14·2
Food, tobacco, etc. ...	299,100	26·3	12·1	14·6	12·1
Clothing, boots and shoes	149,000	35·4	30·3	39·4	39·1
Building	688,600	65·4	51·7	1·4	2·0
Printing	154,500	21·6	19·7	6·0	6·1
Hairdressing	4,100	15·3	12·1	15·3	10·1
Miscellaneous	802,300	13·3	11·6	5·5	4·7
All Unions making Returns	4,445,400	31·7	26·0	16·9	16·1

FRANCE.†

Unemployment increased considerably during January.

The total number of persons on the registers of the Employment Exchanges on 31st January was 44,464 (33,201 men and 11,263 women). At the end of December (3rd January) the corresponding total was 26,514, and at the end of January, 1930, 12,709. The total number of vacancies remaining unfilled on the same date was 8,274 (3,842 for men and 4,432 for women), as compared with 5,017 at the end of December and 11,112 at the end of January, 1930. During the last week of January, the Exchanges succeeded in placing 22,497 persons in situations, including 10,043 dock workers at sea-ports, and in addition found employment for 759 foreign immigrants.

ITALY.‡

Unemployment increased during December. According to statistics furnished by the National Social Insurance Fund, 642,169 workpeople were recorded as unemployed at the end of December, as compared with 534,356 at the end of November, and 408,748 at the end of December, 1929. The total for December, 1930, includes 178,009 engaged in agriculture and fishing, 94,594 in the textile industry, and 178,875 in the building, road construction, etc., industries. In addition, 21,788 persons were partially unemployed at that date, as compared with 22,125 at the end of November and 21,349 at the end of December, 1929.

* Reichsarbeitsblatt, 25th January, 1931, and Reichsarbeitsmarkt-Anzeiger, 10th February, 1931. Berlin.

† Bulletin du Marché du Travail, 6th February, 1931. Paris.

‡ Bollettino Mensile di Statistica, January, 1931. Rome.

BELGIUM.*

Unemployment increased during November. Provisional returns received by the Ministry of Industry, Labour and Social Welfare from 167 approved unemployment insurance societies, with a total membership of 626,220, show that 38,045 (6·1 per cent.) of these were totally unemployed at the end of the month. In the preceding month the percentage was 4·3, and in November, 1929, 1·1. In addition, 75,388 members were employed intermittently during the month. The total days lost through unemployment in November numbered 1,227,863, or 8·18 per cent. of the aggregate possible working days; in the preceding month the percentage was 6·37 and in November, 1929, 1·25.

AUSTRIA.†

Unemployment increased during December, the total number of persons in receipt of unemployment benefit at the end of the month being 294,845 (including 105,955 in Vienna), as compared with 237,745 (88,441 in Vienna) at the end of November, and 226,527 (83,396 in Vienna) at the end of December, 1929.

POLAND.‡

Unemployment increased during December. According to the official journal of the Central Statistical Office of Poland the number of unemployed registered at Employment Exchanges on 27th December was 287,265, as compared with 211,918 on 29th November and 186,427 on 28th December, 1929. On these dates the number of unemployed persons entitled to benefit was 105,916, 91,249 and 83,164 respectively.

SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES.

Unemployment increased in Denmark and Sweden during December.

Denmark.§—Returns supplied to the Danish Statistical Department by trade unions and by the Central Employment Exchange show that out of 288,961 workpeople, 24·6 per cent. were unemployed at the end of December, as against 15·3 per cent. at the end of the preceding month, and 22·4 per cent. at the end of December, 1929.

Sweden.||—The percentage of members of trade unions making returns who were unemployed on 31st December was 22·6, as compared with 15·2 on 30th November, and 16·3 on 31st December, 1929.

UNITED STATES.

According to returns received by the Federal Bureau of Labour Statistics, covering 42,041 establishments in 15 principal industrial groups, these establishments employed 4,711,937 workpeople in December, a decrease of 1·0 per cent. as compared with the total for November. During the same period the aggregate earnings showed a decrease of 0·4 per cent. Employment increased in anthracite mining, and in retail trade; in bituminous coal mining it was practically unchanged; in the remaining groups covered by the returns, employment showed a decrease during December.

If the monthly average index number of employment in manufacturing industries alone in 1926 be taken as 100, the corresponding figure for December is 75·1 as compared with 76·5 in November, and 91·9 in December, 1929.¶

According to the February issue of the *American Federationist* (the journal of the American Federation of Labour), unemployment in January among members of the Federation covered by the returns amounted to 50 per cent. in the building trades, 28 per cent. in the metal trades, and 10 per cent. in the printing trades.

CANADA.**

Employment showed a pronounced curtailment, which however is usual at the beginning of the year.

Returns were received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from 7,511 firms with an aggregate of 912,400 workpeople on their pay-rolls on 1st January, 1931, as compared with 974,918 on 1st December, 1930, a decrease of 6·4 per cent. If the average employment of reporting firms in the year 1926 be represented by 100, the index number of employment for 1st January is 101·7, as compared with 108·5 at the beginning of the preceding month, and 111·2 on 1st January, 1930. At the end of December, 17·0 per cent. of the aggregate membership of trade unions making returns were unemployed, as compared with 13·8 per cent. at the end of November and 11·4 per cent. at the end of December, 1929.

AUSTRALIA.††

Unemployment increased during the last quarter of 1930. The proportion of members of trade unions making returns who were unemployed in this period was 23·4 per cent., as compared with 20·5 per cent. in the preceding quarter and 13·1 per cent. in the last quarter of 1929. These figures relate to persons out of work for three days or more during a specified week in each quarter; they include a small percentage of persons out of work owing to sickness.

NEW ZEALAND.‡‡

Unemployment at mid-November showed an increase when compared with the corresponding week of the preceding quarter. The proportion of members of trade unions making returns who were unemployed in the week ended 15th November, 1930, amounted to 15·5 per cent., as compared with 13·5 per cent. in the week ended 16th August, 1930, and 5·6 per cent. in the week ended 16th November, 1929. (These figures relate to persons unemployed for more than three days during the specified week.)

* Revue du Travail, 31st December, 1930. Brussels.

† Statistische Nachrichten, 27th January, Vienna.

‡ Wiadomości Statystyczne, 15th January, 1931. Warsaw.

§ Statistiske Efterretninger, 22nd January, 1931. Copenhagen.

|| Information supplied by the Department of Social Affairs, Stockholm.

¶ Trend of Employment and Labour Turnover, January, 1931. Washington.

** The January Employment Situation, 1931. Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa.

†† Information supplied by the Prime Minister's Department, Canberra.

‡‡ Monthly Abstract of Statistics, December, 1930. Wellington.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.

Rates of Wages.

IN the industries covered by the Department's statistics,* the changes in rates of wages recorded in January, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, resulted in reductions amounting to an aggregate of about £10,800 in the weekly full-time wages of 166,000 workpeople. Only about 100 workpeople were affected by increases in rates of wages.

The groups of industries principally affected were as shown below :—

Group of Industries.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by		Estimated Amount of Change in Weekly Wages.	
	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.
Metal	—	27,000	£	2,900
Textile	—	94,000	—	3,350
Electricity Supply ...	100	24,000	15	2,400
Other	—	21,000	—	2,150
Total	100	166,000	15	10,800

Among workpeople in the metal group of industries whose wages were reduced in January were blastfurnace workers in the Cleveland district and in Cumberland, North Staffordshire, and Northamptonshire, the reduction in Cleveland amounting to nearly $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on current rates, and varying in the other districts from about $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 per cent. on current rates. A bonus of 40 per cent. on earnings paid to skilled wire drawers employed in the iron and steel wire manufacturing industry was reduced to $31\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. (equivalent to a reduction of about 6 per cent. on total earnings); and workpeople employed in the brass manufacturing industry at Birmingham sustained reductions amounting to $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the earnings of the higher grades and to $1\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. on those of the lower grades. There were also reductions in the wages of laminated spring makers at Sheffield.

In the textile group of industries workpeople affected by reductions included those employed in the bleaching, dyeing, finishing, etc. industries in Yorkshire and Lancashire and in Scotland; in Yorkshire the reductions amounted to about $1\frac{1}{2}$ or $1\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. on current wages, and in Lancashire and Scotland to 9d. and 6d. per week in the case of men and women respectively.

Workpeople employed in the woollen manufacturing industry in Scotland had their wages reduced by about 5 per cent. on current rates in the case of pieceworkers, and by 2s. 6d. and 2s. per week in that of adult male and female timeworkers respectively. Reductions also occurred in the wages of workpeople employed in the woollen industry in the Saddleworth and Yeadon districts, and at Leicester.

In the electricity supply industry there was a reduction, usually of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per hour, in a large number of districts in Great Britain, as a result of an agreement made by the National Joint Industrial Council for the industry. Certain classes of workpeople employed in this industry at Belfast received an increase, while others (the majority) sustained a reduction of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per hour.

In industries other than the above the workpeople affected by reductions taking effect in January included iron miners in Cumberland, who sustained a reduction of 1d. per shift; bakers at Liverpool, with a reduction of 2s. per week; house painters at most of the principal towns in Scotland, with a reduction of 1d. per hour; and warehouse workers at Liverpool, with reductions amounting to 2s. 6d. per week for permanent men and 6d. per day for casual men.

Of the total decrease of £10,800 per week, nearly £5,000 took effect under cost-of-living sliding scales; about £3,100 took effect under arrangements made by Joint Industrial Councils, or other joint standing bodies of employers and workpeople (including £2,450 under cost-of-living sliding scales and incorporated in the above total for such scales); £750 was accounted for by sliding scales based on the selling prices of the manufactured article (pig iron); £100 was the result of arbitration or mediation; and the remaining sum took effect as the result of direct negotiations between employers and workpeople, or of independent action by employers. Reductions following disputes causing stoppage of work accounted for about £125 of the total.

Hours of Labour.

Changes were reported in January in the normal hours of labour of coal miners in Bristol, Cumberland, Lancashire and Cheshire, South Wales and Monmouthshire, and Warwickshire. The changes, which followed the reductions in hours made in these and other districts in December, were mainly increases, with the principal exception of Warwickshire, and resulted in an average increase of about $1\frac{1}{3}$ hours per week for 220,000 workpeople and an average decrease of about $1\frac{1}{4}$ hours per week for 10,000 workpeople.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING JANUARY, 1931.

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
Coal Mining	Warwickshire ...	1st "make-up" day after 12 Jan.	Pieceworkers employed underground.	Addition of 6 per cent. on piece rates consequent upon a reduction in working hours.†
Iron Mining	Cumberland... X...	1st bargain day after 7 Jan.	Workpeople employed in or about iron-ore mines.	Decrease‡ of 1d. per shift for adult workers, and of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per shift for youths under 18 years of age, leaving wages at the minimum. Rates after change: miners' bargain price, 8s. 2d. per shift (minimum unchanged at 7s. per shift); shiftmen (1st class or leading), 8s. 5d.; underground leading labourers, 7s. 3d.; winding enginemen, 8s. 2d.; pumping enginemen, locomotive drivers, and crane drivers, 7s. 8d.; joiners and blacksmiths, 8s. 2d.
	Northamptonshire and Banbury and District.	1st pay day in Feb.‡	Ironstone miners and quarrymen...	Decrease‡ of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 20 per cent. above the standard.
	West Cumberland ...	10 Jan.	Limestone quarrymen ...	Decrease‡ of 1d. per shift for men and for youths 18 to 20 years of age, and of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per shift for youths under 18 years of age, leaving wages at the minimum. Rates after change: rough fillers (by hand) equal to 15 tons, 8s. 10d. per shift; knobblers (by hand) equal to 10 tons, 8s. 4d.; leading labourers, 7s. 6d.; ruddmen, 7s. 3d.; day borers, 7s. 11d.; haulage enginemen and locomotive drivers, 8s.; joiners and blacksmiths, 8s. 10d.
Limestone Quarrying.	Northamptonshire ...	1st pay day in Feb.‡	Limestone quarrymen ...	Decrease‡ of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 20 per cent. above the standard.
Pig Iron Manufacture.	Cleveland and Durham.	4 Jan.	Blastfurnacemen ...	Decrease‡ of $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. above the standard of 1919 (plus, in some cases, an output or input bonus). Minimum rate after change for labourers, 6s. per shift, plus $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.
	Tees-side ... West Cumberland and North Lancashire.	2nd full pay in Jan.	Cokemen and by-product workers Workpeople (excluding craftsmen and bricklayers on maintenance work) employed at blastfurnaces.	Decrease‡ of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on basis rates, tonnage rates and output bonus earnings, leaving a percentage of 21 payable on such rates and earnings, subject to the previous additions varying from 10d. to 1d. per shift for men on base rates of 4s. 10d. to 5s. 7d. per shift. Minimum rate after change for labourers, 4s. 10d. per shift, plus 21 per cent., plus 10d. per shift.
	North Staffordshire	1st making-up day in Jan.	Tonnagemen employed at blastfurnaces.	Decrease‡ of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages $40\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. above the standard.
Wire Manufacture	Northamptonshire ...	1st pay day in Feb.‡	Blastfurnacemen ...	Decrease‡ of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on standard rates of 1929, leaving wages 20 per cent. above the standard.
	Great Britain ...	1st pay day after 24 Jan.	Skilled iron and steel wire drawers	Flat-rate bonus of 40 per cent. previously paid on weekly earnings reduced to $31\frac{1}{4}$ per cent.
Electrical Cable Manufacture.	Greater London Area	1 Jan.	Jointers and jointers' mates employed in the electrical cable-making industry.	Decrease of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per hour.
	Other Districts in Great Britain (except North-East Coast and Greater London Areas).		Plumber-jointers, jointers and jointers' mates employed in the electrical cable-making industry.	

* The particulars of numbers affected and amount of change in weekly wages exclude changes affecting Government employees, agricultural labourers, shop assistants and clerks, for which classes the information available is not sufficient to form a basis for statistics. Where information is available, however, details of changes in the current rate of wages of these classes are included in the list of principal changes recorded. The statistics are based on normal conditions of employment, and do not take into account the effect of short-time working, etc.

† See also under "Changes in Hours of Labour." It was further agreed that the County percentage addition to basis rates should remain at 47 in January, and be reduced to 43 in February and 40 in March.

‡ Under selling-price sliding-scale arrangements.

§ In respect of the preceding pay period.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING JANUARY, 1931 (continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in <i>Italics</i> .)
Brass Trade	Birmingham ...	Pay day in week ending 10 Jan.	Workpeople employed in the brass trade (dayworkers and pieceworkers).	Decrease of 2½ per cent. on earnings for full rated men in Grade C or higher grades, and a decrease of 1½ per cent. for youths and other workers in lower grades.*
Laminated Spring Manufacture.	Sheffield ...	1st pay day after 14 Jan. 1st full pay after 18 Jan.	Smiths and strikers... Fitters and vicemen ...	Decrease of 10 per cent. on piece price list of July, 1922, leaving wages 15 per cent. above the list, and current cost-of-living flat rate bonus of 5s. per week withdrawn.† Decrease‡ of 1s. per week in flat-rate bonus (5s. to 4s.).
Woolen and Worsted Spinning and Manufacture.	Saddleworth District (certain firms).	9 Jan.	Workpeople employed in the woollen spinning and manufacturing industries.	Decreases of such amount as will make a total reduction on rates paid prior to January, 1930, of 9·249 per cent. for timeworkers and of 8·766 per cent. for pieceworkers (in lieu of reduction of 5 per cent. previously made).§
	Yeadon ...	16 Jan.	Workpeople employed in the woollen cloth manufacturing industry.	Decreases of such amount as will make a total reduction on rates paid prior to April, 1930, of 9·249 per cent. for timeworkers and of 8·766 per cent. for pieceworkers (in lieu of reduction previously made of 7½ per cent. on these rates)§
	Leicester ...	1 Jan.	Workpeople employed in the lambs' wool and worsted yarn spinning industry (excluding engineers, etc.).	Bonus reduced‡ from 2d. to 1½d. in the shilling on earnings. Minimum rates after change for timeworkers; men 23 and over, 42s. 6d. per week; women 21 and over, 25s. 6d. per week, plus, in each case, 1½d. in the shilling.
	Various districts in Scotland.¶	1st full pay in Jan.	Workpeople employed in the woollen industry:— Adult timeworkers ...	Decrease of 2s. 6d. per week for men 21 and over and of 2s. per week for women 18 and over, leaving advances over pre-war rates of 21s. per week for men and 16s. per week for women, subject to no rate being reduced below 42s. for men and 32s. for women.
			Pieceworkers ...	Decrease of 8½ per cent. in percentage addition to Uniform Statements for tuners, tuners' assistants, weavers and drawers, leaving wages 59 per cent. above Statement prices; and advance over general average pre-war earnings of other workers reduced from 87½ per cent. to 78 per cent., subject to no rate being reduced below 35s. 6d. per week.
Lace Manufacture.	Nottingham and Derby.	1st pay day after 29 Oct., 1930.	Twist hands employed in the plain net section.	Decrease of 5 per cent. for apprentices 16½ and over and for other workers 16 and over, the rates for those under 16½ and 16 respectively remaining unchanged.
	Leicester ...	1st pay day after 23 Jan.	Male workers ...	Payment for artificial silk nets to be based on prices and extras for cotton nets, subject to converting artificial silk counts to cotton counts by a prescribed method, and same extras to apply as for silk nets.
Elastic Web Weaving.	Leicester ...	1st pay day after 23 Jan.	Male workers ...	Bonus reduced‡ from 12s. to 11s. 6d. in the £.
Textile Bleaching, Dyeing, Printing, Finishing, etc.	Yorkshire (majority of firms) and certain firms in Lancashire.¶	1st pay day in Feb.**	Workpeople employed in the dyeing and finishing trades.	Cost-of-living wage reduced‡ from 63 per cent. to 60½ per cent. on basic rates for timeworkers, from 50½ per cent. to 48½ per cent. for pieceworkers (except pressers) and from 37½ per cent. to 36½ per cent. for hand pressers. Minimum rates after change for timeworkers††:—The Bradford Dyers' Association, Ltd.—men 21 and over, 28s. per week, plus 8 per cent., plus 60½ per cent. on total.; other firms—men 21 and over, 30s. 3d. per week, plus 60½ per cent.; women 18 and over, 18s. per week, plus 60½ per cent.
	West Riding of Yorkshire.	1st pay day in Feb.**	Mechanics employed in dyeworks...	Decrease‡ of 9d. per week. Total rates after change: Bradford, Leeds and Shipley, 60s. 7d.; other towns, 59s. 7d.
	Lancashire, Cheshire and Derbyshire (majority of firms) and certain firms in Yorkshire††; also Scotland.	1st pay day in Feb.**	Workpeople employed in the bleaching, dyeing, calico printing and finishing trades (except waste bleachers, machine calico printers, engravers, and mechanics, etc., employed in repair and maintenance of plant).	Cost-of-living wage reduced‡ from 19s. per week to 18s. 3d. per week for men 21 and over and from 11s. 4d. per week to 10s. 10d. per week for women 18 and over in Lancashire, Cheshire and Derbyshire and 21 and over in Scotland, and by corresponding amounts for juveniles. Minimum rates after change for timeworkers††:—Lancashire, etc.—men 21 and over, 28s., plus 18s. 3d.; women 18 and over, 18s., plus 10s. 10d.; Scotland—men 21 and over, 25s., plus 18s. 3d.; women 21 and over, 15s., plus 10s. 10d.
	Lancashire, Cheshire, Derbyshire and Scotland.	1st pay day in Feb.**	Engravers, etc., employed in calico print works.	Cost-of-living wage reduced‡ from 26s. 10d. to 25s. 11d. per week for engravers, and from 19s. to 18s. 3d. per week for turners, polishers and varnishers.
	Lancashire, Cheshire, Derbyshire, Scotland and Belfast.	1st pay day in Feb.**	Engravers employed in engraving works.	Cost-of-living wage reduced‡ from 26s. 10d. to 25s. 11d. per week for men, from 16s. 4d. to 15s. 10d. per week for women, and by corresponding amounts for youths.
	Middleton ...	1st pay day in Feb.**	Workpeople employed in the dyeing, etc., trades.	Cost-of-living wage reduced‡ from 19s. 1½d. to 18s. 4½d. per week for men and from 11s. 9½d. to 11s. 4d. per week for women and by corresponding amounts for juveniles.††
Linen and Cotton Handkerchief, etc. Manufacture.	Northern Ireland ...	5 Jan.	Female workers in the linen and cotton handkerchief and household goods and linen piece-goods trade employed in certain operations on the Singer High Speed Machine No. 119W2.	General minimum piece rates previously fixed under the Trade Boards Act (Northern Ireland), 1923, for the punch speaking of handkerchiefs reduced by 15 per cent. and those for the shire spoke stitching of fancy linens reduced by 15 or 20 per cent. according to size of article.

* This reduction is the first of two equal instalments—the second instalment operating from the pay day in week ending 25th April, 1931, from which date wages will be stabilised to the 30th October, 1931.

† These changes were made in accordance with the terms of an Industrial Court Award dated 14th January, 1931, and were to take effect pending the adoption of a new Piece Work Price List, to be negotiated between the parties.

‡ Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.

§ The change shown was the result of the adoption of the recommendations of the Macmillan Court of Enquiry, which provided that the addition to basis rates should be reduced from 10 per cent. to 5 per cent. and that the cost-of-living wage (payable on the enhanced basis rates) should be reduced from 72½ per cent. to 64 per cent. for timeworkers and from 63½ per cent. to 56·32 per cent. for pieceworkers.

¶ Including Peebles, Galashiels, Earlston, Selkirk, Dumfries, Langholm, Hawick, Jedburgh, Innerleithen, Walkerburn and Newton St. Boswells.

†† The change applied to workers employed by firms who are members of Yorkshire Master Dyers' Committee (which includes, amongst others, the British Cotton and Wool Dyers' Association, Ltd. (Slubbing Section), the Leeds Dyers and Finishers' Federation, the Yorkshire Indigo, Scarlet and Colour Dyers, Ltd., the Leeds and District Worsted Dyers and Finishers' Association, Ltd., the Huddersfield and District Master Dyers' Association, and the West Riding of Yorkshire Master Slubbing Dyers' Association), The Bradford Dyers' Association, Ltd., and the Employers' Federation of Cotton Yarn Bleachers, Dyers and Sizers (certain firms). Except in a few cases in the Bradford area, the change did not apply in the home dyeing and finishing departments of woollen and worsted manufacturers.

** In respect of the preceding pay period.

††† A special temporary payment of 2s., 2s. 6d. or 3s. per week (according to basic rates) for men, and of 1s. per week for women, is made in addition in the case of timeworkers engaged in productive process work for which a system of collective piecework has not yet been introduced.

†††† The change applied to workers employed by firms who are members of the Federation of Calico Printers, the Employers' Federation of Dyers and Finishers, the Employers' Federation of Bleachers and the Employers' Federation of Cotton Yarn Bleachers, Dyers and Sizers (certain firms). At Hebden Bridge the decreases for timeworkers were similar to those in Lancashire (see above); for pieceworkers the cost-of-living wages were reduced from 54 per cent. to 52 per cent. for netherwood cutters, from 49 per cent. to 47 per cent. for hand cutters, from 41 per cent. to 39 per cent. for menders and from 46 per cent. to 44 per cent. for all other pieceworkers.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING JANUARY, 1931 (continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
Felt Hat Making.	Atherstone and Bedworth.	24 Jan.	Male pieceworkers	Bonus of 25 per cent. on list prices reduced* to 22½ per cent.
Boot and Shoe Making, etc.	Manchester	1 Jan.	Hand sewn boot and shoe makers and repairers.	Ground work price for new work reduced from 20s. to 19s. per pair, the piece rates for other work remaining unchanged. (See I.C. Decision No. 1488 on page 41 of January GAZETTE.)
Baking and Confectionery.	Liverpool, Birkenhead and Wallasey.	19 Jan.	Bakers and confectioners	Decrease* of 2s. per week for adult workers and 1s. per week for juniors. Rates after change for daywork: adult workers—forehands and ovenmen, 66s.; tablehands, 60s.; juniors—18 years, 24s.; 19 years, 29s.; 20 years, 39s.
Mill-sawing	Manchester, Salford and District, and Ashton-under-Lyne.	23 Jan.	Labourers, slingers and crane drivers employed in timber yards and sawmills.	Decrease of 1½d. per hour. Rates after change: labourers, 1s.; slingers, 1s. 0½d.; crane drivers, 1s. 0½d.†
Furniture Manufacture.	London	1 Jan.	Bedding and mattress makers ...	Decrease* of 2 per cent. in the basis for calculating rates of wages, leaving wages 55 per cent. above the list adopted in 1922.
Building	Aberdeen	16 Jan.	Painters	Decrease of ½d. per hour (1s. 7d. to 1s. 6½d.).‡
	Peterhead	24 Jan.	Painters	Decrease of ½d. per hour (1s. 6d. to 1s. 5½d.).
	Various other towns in Scotland.‡	1 Jan.†	Painters	Decrease of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: Grade A towns, 1s. 7d.; Grade B, 1s. 6d.; Grade C, 1s. 5d.‡
Electricity Supply Undertakings.	North-Western Area§	1 Jan.	Adult male workers	New schedule of wages and other conditions of employment adopted creating four zones in lieu of three zones previously existing. Wages in the different zones are related to those applicable to Zone A (which remain unaltered), the rates in Zone B being 97½ per cent. of Zone A rates, those in Zone C, 95 per cent. of Zone A, and those in Zone D, 92½ per cent. of Zone A rates.§
	Various districts in Great Britain.¶	1 Jan. X	Adult male workers (except electrical fitters and wiremen in certain districts).¶	Decrease of ½d. per hour.
	West Midlands Area	1 Jan.	Youths and apprentices under 21 years of age.	Decrease of 1s. 4d. per week for those 18 to 20 years and 9d. per week for those 16 and 17 years.
	Belfast	1st pay day in Jan.	Plumber jointers, cable jointers, electricians, etc.	Increase of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: plumber jointers, 1s. 8d.; cable jointers and armature winders, 1s. 7d.; electricians, electric fitters, and meter repairers, 1s. 6d.; meter fixers, 1s. 5d.
Local Government (Non-Trading Services).	Bedlingtonshire (Northumberland).	1 Jan.	Manual workers	Decrease* of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: labourers—indoor, 1s. 0½d.; outdoor, 1s. 1d.; stokers (ordinary), 1s. 5½d.
	Chester - le - Street Rural District Council.	1st pay day in Jan.	Manual workers	Bonus decreased* from 56½ per cent. to 56 per cent.. on basic rates. Rate after change for labourers, scavengers and refuse collectors, 47s. 7d.
	Basingstoke and Bournemouth.	1st pay day in Jan.	Manual workers	Cost-of-living bonus decreased* from 56 per cent. to 55 per cent., making, with special 5 per cent. on basic rates, a total of 60 per cent. above basic rates. Rates after change: roadmen—1st class, 59s. 7d., 2nd class, 53s. 3d.; scavengers, 58s. 8d.
Basket Making	Lancashire and Cheshire.	5 Jan.	Skip and basket makers	Decrease* of 1/120th of the minimum basis rates of November, 1921.** Rates after change for general yard labourers and refuse collectors—Basingstoke, 11½d. per hour; Bournemouth, 49s. 9d. per week.
Warehousing	Liverpool	31 Jan.	Warehouse workers employed in the cotton, rubber, canned goods, provisions, etc., trades.	Decrease* of 2 per cent. on Lancashire price list, leaving wages 82½ per cent. and 72½ per cent. above the list for timeworkers and pieceworkers respectively.
Slaughtering	London	1 Jan.	Slaughtermen	Decrease of 2s. 6d. per week for permanent men and of 6d. per day for casual men. Rates after change: warehousemen—permanent, 62s. 6d. per week; casual, 11s. 6d. per day (5s. 9d. on Saturday); bookmen and weighers—permanent, 65s. per week; casual, 12s. per day; warehouse captains, 87s. 6d. per week (minimum).††
Entertainments	Edinburgh and Glasgow.	19 Jan.	Musicians employed in certain theatres and music halls.	Decrease of 3d. per head of cattle. Rates after change: knockers, 4s. per head; cutters, 5s. per head.

* Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.

† The change took effect under an arrangement made by the Manchester and District Saw Mill Proprietors' Association. No trade union was a party to the arrangement.

‡ The change took effect under an agreement made between the National Federation of Master Painters in Scotland and the Scottish Painters' Society. In some cases the change took effect from a later date. The principal towns to which the rates shown are reported to apply are as follows:—

Grade A.—Airdrie, Alexandria, Alloa, Ardrossan, Ayr, Bellshill, Beith, Bridge of Allan, Broxburn, Broughty Ferry, Burntisland, Carnoustie, Clydebank, Coatbridge, Cowdenbeath, Dalkeith, Dumbarton, Dundee, Dunfermline, Dunoon, Edinburgh, Falkirk, Glasgow, Gourock, Grangemouth, Greenock, Haddington, Hamilton, Helensburgh, Irvine, Kilmarnock, Kirkcaldy, Largs, Leith, Leslie, Motherwell, North Berwick, Paisley, Perth, Prestwick, Renfrew, Rothesay, Saltcoats, Stenhousemuir, Stirling, Troon, Vale of Leven.

Grade B.—Arbroath, Carlisle, Cupar, Galashiels, Girvan, Hawick, Kelso, Kirkcubright, Lanark, Peebles, Selkirk, St. Andrews.

§ The new schedule was agreed upon by the North Western Area of the National Joint Industrial Council of the Electricity Supply Industry (covering Lancashire, Cheshire, Cumberland, Westmorland, part of North Derbyshire, and North Wales), and was subject to the proviso that where the previous Zone rates in any occupation were higher than those laid down in the new schedule, the former should continue for the existing staffs. With the principal exception of Wallasey (up-graded to Zone A) the grouping of the various undertakings remained as previously. There were small increases and decreases of varying amounts in the rates for certain classes of employees as a result of the new Schedule. The new rates are subject to the general reduction of ½d. per hour agreed upon by the National Joint Industrial Council to operate from 1 January, 1931.

¶ The undertakings affected are those which follow the wages agreement of the National Joint Industrial Council of the Electricity Supply Industry in the following Areas:—London, Yorkshire, North Western, West Midlands, East Midlands, East Coast, Home Counties, South Coast, West of England, South Wales and Monmouthshire and Scotland. The reduction also applied to the North East Coast Area, but only in respect of switchboard attendants. It was provided that in areas where there is a fixed percentage relationship between the scheduled Zone rates, the reduction should be modified for the lower Zones so as to preserve this relationship. The scheduled minimum rates of wages of indoor and outdoor labourers in the various areas are as follows:—London: indoor, 1s. 3.75d.; outdoor, 1s. 4.53d. North East Coast (rates as previously): indoor, Zone A, 1s. 1.67d.; Zone B, 1s. 0.98d.; Zone C, 1s. 0.7d.; outdoor, Zone A, 1s. 2.17d.; Zone B, 1s. 1.47d.; Zone C, 1s. 1.17d. Yorkshire: indoor—Zone A, 1s. 2d.; Zone B, 1s. 1½d.; Zone C, 1s. 0½d.; outdoor—Zone A, 1s. 2½d.; Zone B, 1s. 1½d.; Zone C, 1s. 0½d. North Western Area (under new schedule): indoor—Zone A, 1s. 1.14d.; Zone B, 1s. 0.81d.; Zone C, 1s. 0.48d.; Zone D, 1s. 0.15d.; outdoor, Zone A, 1s. 1.66d.; Zone B, 1s. 1.32d.; Zone C, 1s. 0.98d.; Zone D, 1s. 0.64d. West Midlands: Zone A, 1s. 1.28d.; Zone B, 1s. 0.78d.; Zone C, 1s. 0.28d. East Midlands: Grade I, 1s. 2½d.; Grade II, 1s. 1½d. East Coast: Zone A, 11.75d. to 1s. 0.9d.; Zone B, 10.99d. to 1s. 0.14d.; Zone C, 10.23d. to 11.39d. Home Counties (Stations over 800 K.W.) 1s. 1½d. South Coast: Zone A, 1s. 1.3d.; Zone B, 1s. 0.96d.; Zone C, 1s. 0.54d.; Zone D, 1s. 0.30d.; West of England:—Zone A, 1s. 2.46d.; Zone C, 1s. 0.88d.; Zone D, 10.28d. South Wales and Monmouthshire: 1s. 1½d. Scotland: Grade A, 1s. 1.21d.; Grade B, 1s. 0.93d.; Grade C, 1s. 0.37d.

¶ The change did not generally apply to electrical fitters and wiremen in the London, West of England and East Coast Areas.

** This decrease took effect as a result of a recommendation issued by the South Midlands Joint Industrial Council for the Non-Trading Services of Local Authorities, whereby the minimum rates fixed by the Council in 1921 became subject to a deduction of 14/60ths.

†† This reduction is the first of two equal instalments—the second instalment operating from 2nd May, 1931.

CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED DURING JANUARY, 1931.

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
Agriculture	Radnorshire and Brecknockshire.	1 Jan.	Male workers	Weekly hours in respect of which the minimum rates payable under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924, fixed at 54 in summer and 50 in winter, instead of 54 in summer and 48 in winter.
Coal Mining	Bristol (two collieries)	1 Jan.	Underground workers	Hours changed from an average of 44½ per week to an average of 43½ per week at one colliery (8 hours per shift Monday to Friday, 6½ alternate Saturdays), and 45 at other colliery (7½ hours Monday to Friday, 6½ Saturday).*
	Cumberland... ..	5 Jan.	Underground workers	Increase of 12 minutes per shift (7½ hours to 7 hours 42 minutes), except on Saturdays (to remain at 6½ hours).*
	Lancashire and Cheshire.	1 Jan.	Underground workers	Increase of 15 minutes per shift (7½ to 7¾ hours), except on Saturdays (to remain at 6 hours).* See also note †.
	South Wales and Monmouthshire.	19 Jan.	Surface workers	Increase of a quarter of addition made to hours in 1926 (usually 1 hour per shift, except on Saturdays) for those manipulating coal only, and for labourers.†
	Warwickshire	1st "make-up" after 12 Jan.	Underground workers	Hours changed for underground workers to 7½ per shift on each day of the week, in lieu (usually) of 8 per shift on ordinary weekdays and 7 on alternate Saturdays; and a corresponding adjustment made where necessary in the hours of surface workers manipulating coal (whose hours are generally 48 per week, or ½ hour per shift longer than for underground workers).* Decrease of ½ hour per shift on ordinary weekdays (8 to 7½); Saturday shift increased from 5 to 5½ hours.* (See also under "Changes in Rates of Wages.")

TRADE DISPUTES IN JANUARY.‡

Number, Magnitude and Duration.—The number of disputes involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in January in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was 37, as compared with 30 in the previous month and 33 in January, 1930. In addition, 13 disputes which began before January were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The total number of workpeople involved in all these disputes (including those thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes) was approximately 280,000 and the aggregate number of working days lost was about 3,400,000. An analysis of these figures is given below.

Industry Group.	Number of Disputes in progress in Month.			Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress in Month.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress in Month.
	Started before beginning of Month.	Started in Month.	Total.		
Coal Mining	4	16	20	159,000	2,059,000
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding	3	6	9	1,000	9,000
Textile	3	1	4	120,700	1,318,000
Building, Public Works Contracting, etc.	...	7	7	700	5,000
Other	3	7	10	400	6,000
Total, Jan., 1931 ...	13	37	50	281,800	3,397,000

The principal disputes of the month were those in the coal mining industry in South Wales and Monmouthshire and in the cotton manufacturing industry of Lancashire and parts of the adjoining counties, as to which particulars are given below.

Causes.—The coal-mining dispute in South Wales and Monmouthshire arose out of a proposed reduction in wages, and the dispute in the cotton industry in Lancashire and parts of adjoining counties was occasioned by the proposed introduction of a system of working more looms per weaver. Of the other 35 disputes beginning in January, 16, directly involving 2,600 workpeople, arose out of wages questions; 5, directly involving 3,500 workpeople, out of questions as to working hours; 10, directly involving 1,200 workpeople, on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons; and 4, directly involving 100 workpeople, on other questions of working arrangements.

Results.—Final settlements were effected in the case of 32 new disputes, directly involving 6,200 workpeople, and 5 old disputes, directly involving 400 workpeople. Of these new and old disputes, 7, directly involving 1,200 workpeople, were settled in favour of the workpeople; 14, directly involving 1,400 workpeople, were settled in favour of the employers; and 16, directly involving 4,000 workpeople, were compromised. The results of the coal-mining dispute in South Wales and Monmouthshire and of the cotton dispute in Lancashire, etc., are shown in the Table below.

PRINCIPAL DISPUTES INVOLVING STOPPAGES OF WORK DURING JANUARY, 1931.

Occupations and Locality.	Approximate Number of Workpeople involved.		Date when Dispute		Cause or Object.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.¶	Began.	Ended.		
COAL MINING:— Colliery workpeople—South Wales and Monmouthshire.	150,000	...	1931. 1 Jan.	1931. 17 Jan.	Against proposed reduction in the rates of wages of daywagmen in consequence of the reduction in hours of labour imposed by the Coal Mines Act, 1930.	Work to be resumed at the reduced hours but at previous rates of wages. Joint Conciliation Board to be reconstituted, with a new Independent Chairman, and questions of wages to be dealt with by the Board and, failing agreement, by the Independent Chairman.
Colliery workpeople—South Shields.	2,202	124	12 Jan.	12 Jan.	Dispute as to the application of the provisions of the County Agreement regarding the working of short shifts.	Independent umpire issued a decision on the question in dispute.
TEXTILE INDUSTRIES:— Workpeople in the cotton manufacturing industry— Burnley and certain other centres (certain firms). Burnley (other firms) ... Other centres in Lancashire, Cheshire, Yorkshire and Derbyshire.	620	...	5 Jan.	13 Feb.	Objection to proposed system of working more looms per weaver.	Work to be resumed on 16 Feb.; more looms to a weaver experiment at Burnley to be discontinued.
			12 Jan. 19 Jan. and subsequent dates. 1930.			
Silk knitters and makers up— Macclesfield			16 Oct.	...	Against proposed reduction in wages.	No settlement reported.

* The hours stated for underground workers are throughout subject to the addition of one winding time.

† The length of meal-time was increased from 20 minutes to 30 minutes.

‡ The hours of the surface workers affected in Lancashire and Cheshire had previously been reduced from 1st December, 1930, by an amount equivalent to half the addition made to hours in 1926.

§ Disputes involving less than 10 workpeople, and those which lasted less than one day, have, as usual, been omitted from the statistics, except when the aggregate duration (i.e., number of workpeople multiplied by number of working days, allowing for workpeople replaced by others, etc.) exceeded 100 days.

¶ I.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred but not themselves parties to the disputes. The statements of cause and result do not apply to these persons.

‡ The number varied at different dates. Full particulars are not yet available, but it has been provisionally estimated, for the purpose of the statistics given above, that the number involved at the end of January (excluding those unemployed when the dispute began) was about 120,000. An account of this dispute will be given in the March issue of this GAZETTE.

CHANGES IN COST OF LIVING: STATISTICS FOR 31st JANUARY.*

Summary: Average Increases since July, 1914.

All Items included	...	...	52%
Food only	...	...	36%

FOOD.

DURING January the general level of retail prices of food showed a further decline, as a result of reductions in the prices of eggs, bread and flour, butchers' meat, bacon and cheese. Potatoes, however, advanced in price.

As a net result of all the changes recorded the average increase over the level of July, 1914, in the retail prices (in Great Britain and Northern Ireland) of the articles of food included in these statistics was 36 per cent. at 31st January, 1931, as compared with 38 per cent. at 1st January, 1931, and 54 per cent. at 1st February, 1930.

In the following Table is given a comparison of retail prices of these articles of food in July, 1914, and at 1st January and 31st January, 1931:—

Article.	Average Price (per lb. unless otherwise indicated—to the nearest ¼d.)			Average Inc. (+) or Dec. (–) at 31st Jan., 1931, as compared with		
	July, 1914.	1st Jan., 1931.	31st Jan., 1931.	July, 1914.	1st Jan., 1931.	31st Jan., 1931.
Beef, British—						
Ribs	s. d. 0 10	s. d. 1 4½	s. d. 1 4½	+ 0 6½	...	...
Thin Flank	0 6½	0 9	0 8½	+ 0 2½	...	...
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—						
Ribs	0 7½	0 10½	0 10½	+ 0 3	– 0 0½	...
Thin Flank	0 4½	0 5½	0 5½	+ 0 0½	...	...
Mutton, British—						
Legs	0 10½	1 5½	1 5½	+ 0 7	– 0 0½	...
Breast	0 6½	0 9½	0 9½	+ 0 3	– 0 0½	...
Mutton, Frozen—						
Legs	0 6½	0 11½	0 11	+ 0 4½	– 0 0½	...
Breast	0 4	0 5	0 5	+ 0 1	...	...
Bacon (streaky) †	0 11½	1 1	1 0½	+ 0 1½	– 0 0½	...
Flour ... per 7 lb.	0 10½	1 0½	1 0½	+ 0 1½	– 0 0½	...
Bread ... per 4 lb.	0 5½	0 7½	0 7½	+ 0 1½	– 0 0½	...
Tea ...	1 6½	1 11½	1 11½	+ 0 5½	...	...
Sugar (granulated) ...	0 2	0 2½	0 2½	+ 0 0½	...	...
Milk ... per quart	0 3½	0 6½	0 6½	+ 0 3	...	...
Butter—						
Fresh	1 2½	1 6	1 6	+ 0 3½	...	...
Salt	1 2½	1 4	1 4	+ 0 1½	...	...
Cheese ‡	0 8½	1 0	0 11½	+ 0 2½	– 0 0½	...
Margarine	0 7	0 7½	0 7½	+ 0 0½	...	...
Eggs (fresh) ... each	0 1½	0 2½	0 2	+ 0 0½	– 0 0½	...
Potatoes ... per 7 lb.	0 4½	0 6	0 7	+ 0 2½	+ 0 1	...

The following Table gives a percentage comparison of the level of retail prices at the same dates:—

Article.	Average Percentage Increase at 31st January, 1931, as compared with July, 1914.			Corresponding General Average for 1st Jan., 1931.
	Large Towns (Populations over 50,000).	Small Towns and Villages.	General Average.	
Beef, British—	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Ribs	63	63	63	64
Thin Flank	32	35	34	34
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—				
Ribs	38	41	40	43
Thin Flank	10	16	13	16
Mutton, British—				
Legs	67	71	69	70
Breast	48	46	47	48
Mutton, Frozen—				
Legs	61	56	58	62
Breast	18	22	20	23
Bacon (streaky) †	10	14	12	17
Fish ...	128	103	116	112
Flour ...	14	17	15	21
Bread ...	25	26	25	29
Tea ...	22	34	28	28
Sugar (granulated) ...	25	17	21	21
Milk ...	83	86	84	84
Butter—				
Fresh	17	29	23	24
Salt	11	15	13	13
Cheese §	31	34	32	38
Margarine	6	...	3	3
Eggs (fresh) ...	68	61	64	96
Potatoes ...	59	30	45	28
All above articles of Food (Weighted Percentage Increase) ...	36	36	36	38

* As 1st February fell on a Sunday, the statistics relate to 31st January, in accordance with the usual practice.

† The average change in price during January was very small, but sufficient to lower the average price, as expressed to the nearest farthing.

‡ If this kind is seldom dealt with in a locality, the returns quote the price of another kind locally representative.

§ The description of cheese specified for quotation is Canadian or American, but where such cheese is seldom sold in a locality the returns quote the price of another kind locally representative.

RENT, CLOTHING, FUEL AND LIGHT.

As regards *rents*, inquiries which have been made into the changes which have taken effect under the Rent and Mortgage Interest (Restrictions) Acts indicate that the average increase in the controlled rents (including rates) of working-class dwellings between July, 1914, and 31st January, was approximately 49 per cent. When decontrolled rents are also included, the combined average increase in working-class rents since July, 1914, is approximately 54 per cent. This latter figure has been utilised in calculating the final percentage increase for all the items included in these statistics.

As regards *clothing*, owing to the wide range of quotations, both now and before the war, to changes in qualities and in stocks held by retailers, and to variations in the extent to which different articles and qualities have been affected by price changes, it is impossible to make an *exact* calculation of the increase in prices; but information as to the movements of prices of men's suits and overcoats, underclothing and hosiery, textile materials and boots, received from retailers in the principal towns, indicates that at 31st January the level of retail prices of articles in this group, taking goods of the kinds purchased by the working classes and so far as possible the same qualities of goods at each date, averaged between 100 and 105 per cent. higher than in July, 1914.

In the *fuel and light* group the prices of coal at 31st January averaged about 85 per cent. above the level of July, 1914. The average price of gas was between 45 and 50 per cent. above the pre-war level. For the fuel and light group as a whole (including coal, gas, oil, candles and matches) the average increase at 31st January, as compared with July, 1914, was about 75 per cent.

ALL ITEMS.

If the average increases in the cost of all the foregoing items are combined in accordance with their relative importance in pre-war working-class family expenditure, allowance being also made for the increase in the prices of soap, soda, domestic ironmongery, brushware and pottery, tobacco, fares and newspapers (averaging about 75 per cent.), the resultant general average increase for 31st January, 1931, is approximately **52 per cent.**† over the level of July, 1914, as compared with 53 per cent. at 1st January, 1931, and 64 per cent. at 1st February, 1930.

The result of this calculation (in which the same quantities and, as far as possible, the same qualities of each item are taken in 1931 as in 1914) is to show the *average increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living of working-class families* (i.e., the standard actually prevailing in working-class families before the war, irrespective of whether such standard was adequate or not). Owing to the variations in the amounts of increase in the prices of different commodities it is probable that economies or readjustments in expenditure have been effected in many families, especially in those cases where incomes have not increased so much as prices. On the other hand, it is probable that the standard of living has been raised in those families in which wages have been increased in greater proportion than prices. No allowance is made in the figures for any such alterations in the standard of living, as to which trustworthy statistics are not available.

SUMMARY TABLE: 1920 to 1931.

The following Table shows the average percentage increase, as compared with July, 1914, for all the items included in the statistics, at the beginning of each month, 1920 to 1931:—

Average Percentage Increase since July, 1914—All Items.
(Food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, etc.)

Month (beginning of).	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931
Jan. ...	125	165	92	78	77	80	75	75	68	67	66	53
Feb. ...	130	151	88	77	79	79	73	72	66	65	64	52
Mar. ...	130	141	86	76	78	79	72	71	64	66	61	...
April ...	132	133	82	74	73	75	68	65	64	62	57	...
May ...	141	128	81	70	71	73	67	64	64	61	55	...
June ...	150	119	80	69	69	72	68	63	65	60	54	...
July ...	152	119	84	69	70	73	70	66	65	61	55	...
Aug. ...	155	122	81	71	71	73	70	64	65	63	57	...
Sept. ...	161	120	79	73	72	74	72	65	65	64	57	...
Oct. ...	164	110	78	75	76	76	74	67	66	65	56	...
Nov. ...	176	103	80	75	80	76	79	69	67	67	57	...
Dec. ...	169	99	80	77	81	77	79	69	68	67	55	...

NOTE.

A brief statement of the method of compiling these statistics was given on page 236 of the July, 1923, issue of this GAZETTE. A more detailed account was given in the issue of February, 1921.

* See note* in previous column.

† If allowance is made for the changes in taxation since July, 1914, on the commodities included in these statistics, the average increase is about 1 per cent. less.

RETAIL PRICES OVERSEAS.

[N.B.—While the percentages given in the following Summary Tables are derived from the most authoritative sources of statistical information, certain differences in the nature and scope of the data used, in the methods of combining such data and in the periods for which the rise is measured, suggest the need for caution in drawing conclusions from a comparison between the figures for any two countries or cities. It is also to be observed that in every case the percentage calculation is based on the assumption that the standard of living is identical at the various periods compared.]

I.—FOOD.

PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN THE VARIOUS COUNTRIES AS COMPARED WITH JULY, 1914.*

Country.	Percentage Increase as compared with July, 1914.*				Latest figures available.	
	July, 1927.	July, 1928.	July, 1929.	July, 1930.	Rise.	Date.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	1931.
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	59	57	49	41	36	31 Jan.
FOREIGN COUNTRIES.						1930.
Czechoslovakia...	...	...	...	30	20	Nov.
Denmark ...	53	53	49	37	26	Jan.'31
Egypt (Cairo)†...	47	44	40	32	32	Sept.
Finland ...	965	1,016	979	837	780	Dec.
France (Paris)†...	457	447	506	501	549	Jan.'31
" (other towns)†...	453†	436†	482†	524†	550	Nov.
Germany ...	57	54	56	46	34	Jan.'31
Italy ...	440	416	458	407	382	Dec.
Norway ...	75	73	57	51	45	Jan.'31
Spain (Madrid)†...	84	73	77	80	96	Nov.
" (Barcelona)†...	64	63	73	72	78	Nov.
Sweden†	51	57	51	40	33	Jan.'31
Switzerland ...	57	57	55	52	49	Dec.
United States ...	50	50	55	41	35	Dec.
BRITISH DOMINIONS, &C.						
Australia ...	52	52	60	47	34	Dec.
Canada ...	49	47	50	49	34	Jan.'31
India (Bombay):						
Native families ...	54	43	45	36	11	Jan.'31
Irish Free State ...	66	66	66	56	56	Oct.
New Zealand ...	44	46	46	43	37	Dec.
South Africa ...	19	16	16	9	8	Dec.

II.—ALL ITEMS.

PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN THE VARIOUS COUNTRIES IN THE COST OF FOOD, TOGETHER WITH (SO FAR AS POSSIBLE) HOUSE-RENT, CLOTHING, FUEL AND LIGHT, AND OTHER HOUSEHOLD REQUIREMENTS, AS COMPARED WITH JULY, 1914.*

Country.	Items on which Computation is based.†	Percentage Increase as compared with July, 1914.*				Latest figures available.	
		July, 1927.	July, 1928.	July, 1929.	July, 1930.	Rise.	Date.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	1931.
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	A,B,C,D,E	66	65	61	55	52	31 Jan.
FOREIGN COUNTRIES.							1930.
Belgium ...	A,C,D,E	690	711	771	769	759	Dec.
Czechoslovakia (Prague) ...	A,B,C,D,E	...	...	...	9	4	Nov.
Denmark ...	A,B,C,D,E	76	76	73	65	59	Jan.'31
Egypt (Cairo)...	A,B,C,E	51	51	50	48	46	Oct.
Finland ...	A,B,C,D,E	1,081	1,113	1,101	1,008	969	Dec.
France (Paris) ...	A,B,C,D,E	407¶	419¶	455¶	492¶	497	4th Qr.
Germany ...	A,B,C,D,E	50	53	54	49	40	Jan.'31
Holland (Amsterdam) ...	A,B,C,D,E	67§	70§	69§	62§	62	Sept.
Italy (Milan) ...	A,B,C,D,E	448	426	442	431	423	Nov.
" (Rome) ...	A,B,C,D,E	403	387	407	400	397	Nov.
Norway ...	A,B,C,D,E	103	93	80	75	71	Jan.'31
Poland (Warsaw) ...	A,B,C,D,E	15	23	23	19	8	Jan.'31
Sweden ...	A,B,C,D,E	69	73	69	64	61	Jan.'31
Switzerland ...	A,B,C,D	60	61	61	59	56	Dec.
United States...	A,B,C,D,E	73§	70§	70§	67§	61	Dec.
BRITISH DOMINIONS, &C.							
Australia ...	A,B,C,D,E	46¶	47¶	50¶	...	45	2nd Qr.
Canada ...	A,B,C,D,E	55	55	56	56	50	Jan.'31
India (Bombay):							
Native families ...	A,B,C,D	56	47	48	40	19	Jan.'31
Irish Free State ...	A,B,C,D,E	71	73	74	68	68	Oct.
New Zealand ...	A,B,C,D,E	61	62	60	58	55	Dec.
South Africa ...	A,B,C,D,E	32	31	31	28	26	Dec.

* Exceptions to this are: Egypt, January 1913 to July 1914; France (other towns), August, 1914; Rome and Milan, January to June, 1914; Switzerland, June, 1914; Spain, South Africa, France (Paris, all items), Poland, 1914; Germany, average, 1913-1914; Amsterdam, 1911-1913; Belgium, April, 1914; Italy (food), United States (all items), Canada, 1913; Australia (all items), November, 1914. The Australian percentages for all items are a weighted average for the six capital cities. In Czechoslovakia and Poland, the percentages are calculated on prices converted to their gold values; in the other countries, on prices in the ordinary currency.

† Fuel and light are also included in these figures.

‡ Figure for August.

§ Figure for June.

¶ A = Food; B = House-Rent; C = Clothing; D = Fuel and light; E = Other or Miscellaneous Items.

¶ Figure for 3rd Quarter.

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

THE number of workpeople, other than seamen, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, reported during January, 1931, as killed in the course of their employment was 197, as compared with 223* in the previous month and with 207 in January, 1930. Fatal accidents to seamen reported in January, 1931, numbered 43, as compared with 30 in the previous month and with 64 in January, 1930.

RAILWAY SERVICE.		Factories and Workshops (continued).	
Brakesmen and Goods	2	Other Metal Trades	1
Guards ...	2	Shipbuilding	1
Engine Drivers and Motor-men	2	Wood	5
Firemen	2	Gas	1
Guards (Passenger)	...	Electric Generating Stations	...
Permanent Way Men	9	Clay, Stone, Glass, etc.	5
Porters	1	Chemicals, etc.	8
Shunters	1	Food and Drink	6
Mechanics	...	Paper, Printing, etc.	...
Labourers	1	Tanning, Currying, etc.	...
Miscellaneous	5	Rubber Trades	...
Contractors' Servants	...	Other Non-Textile Industries	...
TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE	23		
MINES.		PLACES UNDER SS. 104-106, FACTORY ACT, 1901.	
Underground	89	Docks, Wharves, etc.	5
Surface	5	Buildings	10
TOTAL, MINES	94	Warehouses and Railway Sidings	...
QUARRIES over 20 feet deep		TOTAL, FACTORY ACTS	71
Factories and Workshops.		Use or Working of:—	
Cotton	5	Canal	2
Wool, Worsted and Shoddy	2	Tramway	2
Other Textiles	...	Construction or Repair of Railway*	1
Textile Bleaching and Dyeing	2	Total (excluding Seamen)	197
Metal Extracting and Refining	1		
Metal Conversion, including Rolling Mills and Tube Making	3	SEAMEN.	
Metal Founding	3	Trading Vessels, Sailing	...
Engineering and Machine Making	5	" " Steam	35
Boiler Making and Constructional Engineering	2	Fishing Vessels, Sailing	...
Locomotives, Railway and Tramway Carriages, Motors, Aircraft...	6	" " Steam	8
		TOTAL, SEAMEN	43
		Total (including Seamen)	240

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.

THE total number of cases† of poisoning, anthrax, and epitheliomatous and chrome ulceration in Great Britain and Northern Ireland reported during January, 1931, under the Factory and Workshop Act, or under the Lead Paint (Protection against Poisoning) Act, was 24. One death‡ was reported, due to lead poisoning at a paint and colour works.

I. Cases.		I. Cases—(continued).	
(a) LEAD POISONING.		(c) ANTHRAX.	
Among Operatives engaged in—		Wool	1
Smelting of Metals	...	Handling of Horsehair	...
Plumbing and Soldering...	...	Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins	2
Shipbreaking	...	Other Industries	...
Printing	...	TOTAL, ANTHRAX	3
Tinning of Metals	...		
Other Contact with Molten Lead	1	(d) EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION (SKIN CANCER).	
White and Red Lead Works	1	Pitch	4
Pottery	...	Tar	1
Vitreous Enamelling	...	Paraffin	...
Electric Accumulator Works	4	Oil	1
Paint and Colour Works...	2	TOTAL, EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION	6
Indiarubber Works	...		
Coach and Car Painting	...	(e) CHROME ULCERATION.	
Shipbuilding	...	Chromium Plating	2
Paint used in Other Industries	1	TOTAL, CHROME ULCERATION	2
Other Industries	...		
Painting of Buildings	4		
TOTAL, LEAD POISONING	13	II. Deaths.	
		LEAD POISONING:	
(b) OTHER POISONING	...	Paint and Colour Works	1

* The figure previously published for December, 1930, has been revised.

† Accidents occurring in the use or working of railways are included under "Railway Service."

‡ Cases include all attacks reported during the month, and not previously reported, so far as is known, during the preceding 12 months. Deaths include all fatal cases reported during the month, whether included (as cases) in previous returns or not.

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

Trade Boards Acts, 1909 and 1918.

POWER OF MINISTER OF LABOUR TO MAKE SPECIAL ORDER—
MEANING OF SPECIFIED TRADE.

A DIVISIONAL Court made absolute* three rules *nisi* for prohibition directed to the Minister of Labour prohibiting her from proceeding with the making of a special Order pursuant to Sections 1 and 2 of the Trade Boards Act, 1918, applying the Trade Boards Acts to the catering trade, as defined by the Minister in the draft Special Order set out in her Notice of Intention dated 6th August, 1930. In the draft Special Order the catering trade was defined as "all work performed in or in connection with a catering establishment," and the expression "catering establishment" was defined as "an undertaking or branch or department of an undertaking wholly or mainly engaged in the preparation, supply, or serving of food or drink for consumption at premises or places where such food or drink is served by persons in the employment of the undertaking or branch or department."

The definition further provided that the catering trade should not include:—

- (a) Work performed in the provision of lodging;
- (b) Work performed in any branch or department of an hotel, boarding house, or lodging house in which branch or department the food or drink supplied is served wholly or mainly to persons residing therein;
- (c) Work performed in the construction, repair, furnishing or decoration of premises;
- (d) Work performed on board any ship or vessel;
- (e) The manufacture or bottling of wine, spirits, beer, cider, or perry, and work incidental thereto;
- (f) Operations covered by (i) the Trade Boards (Milk Distributive) Order, 1928, and (ii) the Trade Boards (Laundry) Order, 1919.

The Lord Chief Justice, in giving judgment, said that it was a matter of regret to limit or even to attempt to limit the application of this excellent statute; but one must look to the powers of the Minister within the four corners of the legislation, and he could not help thinking that in this draft Special Order, and the draft definition, something was being attempted which the Act did not contemplate. The Act contemplated that the principal Act should apply to the trade, not to selected portions of it. He had come reluctantly enough to the conclusion that the writ of prohibition ought to be issued.

Mr. Justice Avory agreed that the rules should be made absolute. He said that, in looking at the definition of "the catering trade," which was part of the Special Order proposed, it was obvious that neither employers nor employed could satisfactorily determine whether the employed persons would or would not be entitled to the benefit of the provision as to minimum wages. From the definition of "catering establishment" it appeared that it must be "wholly or mainly engaged in the preparation, supply, or serving of food or drink, etc." Before a person who was employed in any such establishment could determine whether he was one of the class who would get the benefit of the minimum rate of wages he had to ascertain whether the undertaking was "wholly or mainly engaged" in the manner defined. That must involve an examination into the accounts of his employers.

For this reason, as well as those given by the Lord Chief Justice, in which he concurred, he agreed that the proposed Order did not comply with the terms and intentions of the Act.

Mr. Justice MacNaughten agreed. It appeared, he said, from the paragraph of the definition which excludes certain parts of the supposed Trade, that the definition included the trade or occupation of lodging-house keepers, hotel keepers, builders, decorators, house furnishers, shipowners, manufacturers of wine, brewers, bottlers, and others. It seemed to him that persons engaged in those various and diverse occupations could not be described as engaged in the trade of catering. In his view the definition of the catering trade appended to the draft Special Order was not a definition of any one trade at all, but was a definition which included a large number of different trades; and, further, that if it was a definition of a certain trade it was not a definition of the trade within the meaning of subsection (2) of Section 1 of the Trade Boards Act, 1918. Assuming, however, that the definition given by the Minister was a definition of a trade within the meaning of the Act, he entirely agreed with the views which had been expressed, that it was not within the competence of the Minister to make an Order applying it to a part of the trade.

The first rule was accordingly made absolute, with costs, the other two rules being made absolute without costs.—*Rex v. Minister of Labour, ex parte The National Trade Defence Association; ex parte The Incorporated Association of Purveyors of Light Refreshments; and ex parte The Strand Hotels, Limited. High Court of Justice. 5th February, 1931.*

BRUSH AND BROOM TRADE.

An employer and his agent were prosecuted for (a) underpaying two female workers, (b) failing to keep adequate records, and (c) failing to post notices. They were fined £1 on each charge, £8 in all, with £4 4s. costs.—*Rex v. W. Griffin and W. J. Carroll. Tower Bridge Police Court. 23rd January, 1931.*

MILK DISTRIBUTIVE TRADE.

An employer and her agent were charged with (a) under-payment of one male worker, and (b) failing to keep adequate records. The

* An appeal against this decision is being made by the Minister of Labour.

employer was fined £2 on the first charge, and ordered to pay the costs of summons on the second. The agent was fined £1 on the second charge, and ordered to pay the costs of summons on the first charge. Arrears amounting to 10s. 3d. were paid before the hearing.—*Rex v. Agnes Isaac and William Stanley Isaac. Swansea Police Court. 6th January, 1931.*

Workmen's Compensation Act, 1925.

ACCIDENT ARISING "OUT OF AND IN THE COURSE OF" EMPLOYMENT
—WORKMEN KILLED BY INSANE COMRADE.

Three workmen, Allen, Holden, and McGough, worked for the appellants. McGough had been employed by them for five years, and had been described as a quiet man, a little morose, but a good workman, kindhearted, and on friendly terms with his workmates. Nothing unusual had been observed in his general behaviour. On July 2nd, 1929, however, he suddenly went mad, killed Allen and Holden with a crowbar, and injured others. He was subsequently indicted for murder and found "guilty, but insane."

On a claim by Holden's dependants the judge at Manchester County Court found that the accident arose out of the employment, and awarded £150.

The employers appealed, contending that the accident was one which might have happened to any person, in any locality in which there were other people, and that the employment had nothing to do with the accident, which did not arise out of the employment.

The Master of the Rolls (Lord Hanworth), in giving judgment, said that it had been conceded that the deceased man, as a rubber worker, was not exposed to any special risk in his employment. The question was whether he could be said to be subject to the risk of an attack by a fellow-worker. There was a number of authorities in which the special risk of being attacked in that way had been considered. In the case of a man shot while carrying money to a colliery, it was possible to say that he was exposed to a particular danger of attack because it was known that he was in the habit of carrying the money. (*Nisbet v. Rayne* (1910), 2 K.B. 689.) There was the instance of a man employed as boatswain who had to control a rough crew, and of a man engaging labour at the docks, who was attacked while doing so.

These cases had been considered in *Trim Joint District School v. Kelley* (1914), A.C. 667, and there it was held that when the master of an industrial school had been attacked by unruly boys, and had died from his injuries, there was evidence that there was an accident which arose out of the employment. On the other hand, it had been held that an assault by a fellow-worker did not necessarily arise out of the employment.

The County Court judge considered that the fatal blow had come in the course of the deceased man's duty, as it might have come from a piece of inanimate machinery. But in the case of machinery the employer would have to exercise care and skill and foresight to keep the machinery in good order, and if there were nothing lacking in that respect it was doubtful whether he would be liable. There was nothing in this case which enabled the Court to say that the act done was attributable to the employers, or the employment, so as to make the employers liable, and the appeal must therefore be allowed.—*Holden v. Premier Waterproof and Rubber Company, Limited. Court of Appeal. 10th December, 1930.*

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
ACTS, 1920-30.

DECISIONS GIVEN BY THE UMPIRE.

THE Umpire is a judicial authority independent of the Ministry of Labour, appointed by the Crown under Section 12 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, for the purpose of determining disputed claims to benefit. His decisions* are final and conclusive.

Appeals to the Umpire may be made by the Insurance Officer or by an Association of which the claimant is a member, or, with the permission of the Court of Referees, by the claimant himself. The claimant may also appeal if the decision of the Court was not unanimous.

The following recent decisions are of general interest:—

Case No. 19407/30. (29/12/30.)

SECTION 4 (1) OF 1930 ACT—OFFERS OF SUITABLE EMPLOYMENT—
DISQUALIFICATION APPLIES EQUALLY WHETHER SITUATION IS
"OFFERED" OR MERELY "NOTIFIED" TO AN APPLICANT.

The circumstances of this case are as stated in the following decision given by the Deputy Umpire:—

Decision.—"On the facts before me my decision is that the claim for benefit should be disallowed for six weeks from and including the first day of the benefit period immediately following that in which this decision is given."

"On 13th August, 1930, when she had been unemployed 13 months, claimant, a rope spinner, who had been earning 22s. 3d. per week and is 18½ years of age, was notified that there were situations vacant in Leeds for inexperienced resident 'generals' in domestic employment, at specified wages, which are those paid by good employers in Leeds to young women who have not previously been in domestic

* Volumes containing selected decisions of the Umpire are published annually by H.M. Stationery Office, the latest being a volume of selected decisions given during the year 1929 (price 7s. 6d. net). A volume containing a special selection of important decisions given by the Umpire prior to 19th April, 1928 (price 15s. net), and a volume containing selected decisions given from 19th April, 1928, to 12th March, 1930 (price 6s. net), have also been issued; also an analytical guide to decisions given before 13th March, 1930 (price 2s. 6d. net). Selected decisions are also issued monthly in pamphlet form, and may be obtained, as and when issued, on payment of an annual subscription, the latest pamphlet being that for December 1930.

employment. As claimant stated that her father would not allow her to go out of the town where she lives (Sunderland) no more precise particulars of the vacant situations were given, as it would clearly have been useless in the circumstances to have given them. The Court of Referees considered that no definite work had been offered. But though it may not have been 'offered' it was, in my opinion, 'notified' to claimant (see Section 4 (1) of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1930. Also compare Decision 17340/30*). In view of her long period of unemployment, and her poor prospects of obtaining her own class of work locally, resident domestic employment in Leeds as an 'inexperienced general' at a wage which is paid by good employers in that city had become prima facie suitable employment for her (see Section 5 (2) (ii) of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1927), and the onus of proving it unsuitable lies on the claimant (Decision 10352/30, not printed). In my opinion she has failed to discharge that onus, nor has she shown just cause for refusing to apply for any of the situations notified. She, therefore, incurs disqualification for benefit under Section 4 (1) of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1930.

"It is to be observed that this subsection deals with two classes of cases, viz., where a situation has merely been 'notified' to the claimant, and where a situation has been 'offered' to the claimant. The present case falls within the former category."

Case No. 788/31. (9/1/31.)

SECTION 7 (1) (ii) OF PRINCIPAL ACT—FORM OF APPLICATION—RULES REGARDING ANTEDATING OF CLAIMS FOR BENEFIT.

The material circumstances of this case are as stated in the final paragraph of the following decision given by the Deputy Umpire:—

Decision.—"On the facts before me my decision is that if the above named employed person had made a claim for unemployment benefit antedating of the claim for benefit would not have been allowed.

"For the purpose of obtaining unemployment benefit an insured contributor is not entitled to count any day in respect of which he has not made a claim in the prescribed manner or in respect of which he has not proved unemployment in the prescribed manner. There are only two exceptions to this statement, namely: that the Minister has power to excuse signing of the unemployed register in such cases as he thinks proper; and that there is power in the statutory tribunals to allow a claim to be antedated in certain circumstances.

"The antedating of claims is a concession which can be granted only when a claimant has satisfied the conditions laid down in the Unemployment Insurance (Commencement of Periods) Regulations, 1929 (S.R. & O. No. 900). One of those conditions is that the claimant must prove that there was 'good cause' for his failure to make the claim on the date to which he seeks to antedate and this means that he must prove 'good cause' for his delay in claiming throughout the whole period covered by his application for antedating (see Decision 17264/30†).

"It is only with the condition of proving 'good cause' that the present decision deals.

"The idea underlying the condition of showing 'good cause' for delay in claiming is that the claimant has been prevented by circumstances from duly attending at the Employment Exchange for the purpose of discharging the statutory obligation of claiming in the prescribed manner.

"The decisions which have already been given on the subject have not always been consistent, and in some instances perhaps have gone further than the terms and purposes of the Regulations strictly warrant. In order to secure more certainty and uniformity it is convenient to summarise the principles upon which questions of 'good cause' ought to be determined, and in so far as previous decisions conflict with these principles they should no longer be followed. The Rules hereinafter given will apply to all cases except those in which the claimants have been on full compensation for injuries or in receipt of National Health Insurance benefit and are contesting the cessation or reduction thereof. These cases will be the subject of a later decision.

"Rule 1. In order to establish 'good cause' for not attending at the Employment Exchange to make his claim in the prescribed manner the claimant must show:—

- (A) that he was prevented from attending by circumstances over which he had no control; or
- (B) that under the circumstances existing at the time it was reasonable that he should not so attend:

Provided in both cases that he did subsequently attend without undue delay to rectify his omission.

"When considering under Rule 1 (B) the circumstances existing at the time which the claimant alleges made it reasonable that he should not attend at the Employment Exchange for the purpose of making his claim in the prescribed manner the following further Rules should be applied:—

"Rule 2. A claimant does not show 'good cause' for his delay in making his claim in the prescribed manner when he deliberately refrains from the discharge of his statutory duty, either for his own personal convenience, or because he does not anticipate that he will derive any immediate or future advantage from so doing, or because of his own negligence, thoughtlessness or indifference (Decisions 10427/30‡; 11513/30§).

"Rule 3. A claimant fails to show 'good cause' by alleging that he was ignorant of the requirements of the statutes and regulations or of his rights and duties thereunder (Decisions 417/29, * 1011/28, † 1213/29†), because it is the duty of the claimant, in this and in any other case, if he is in ignorance or doubt, to make inquiry of those persons who are competent to give official information and instruction (Decisions 2970/29, 3385/29, 8904/29, none of which is printed), but not of those who cannot speak with authority such as a fellow-workman, foreman or Trade Union Official (Decisions 3385/29, 11570/30§).

"Rule 4. The statutory duty of making a claim in the prescribed manner is a personal one, and a claimant cannot successfully plead as 'good cause' that he had arranged with some one to perform the duty for him (if that can ever be possible) (Decision 16021/30§), or that he thought or expected that some other person would be making arrangements which would obviate the necessity of the claimant's attendance at the Employment Exchange (Decision 18031/30||).

"The following are illustrations under Rule 1 (A) of instances in which a claimant is prevented from attending the Employment Exchange by circumstances over which he had not control: where a shipwrecked seaman (previously employed on a British ship) is returning home on another ship after the date of the expiration of the period for which he was paid wages (Decision 3791/28¶), and where a claimant is prevented by his own illness or imprisonment (Decisions 4939/20, not printed, 17264/30).

"The following are illustrations under Rule 1 (B) of circumstances in which it may generally be held that it was reasonable that the claimant should not have attended the Employment Exchange; where a claimant was prevented from so attending at the time allotted to him because he was interviewing a prospective employer with whom he had fixed an appointment (Decision 9794/29§); where, having been prevented by climatic conditions from working, he has been required to remain at his place of work in anticipation of work being resumed later in the day (Decision 7592/30**); where, living at a considerable distance from his place of employment, he did not know of an unexpected alteration of the recognised holiday (Decision 7544/29, not printed); where he has acted in accordance with instructions or information given by the officials of the Employment Exchange (Decisions 491/29, 8803/29, neither printed); or where he has acted reasonably under a bona fide misapprehension of such instructions or information (Decision 16140/30§).

"In the present instance the claimant asks to be allowed to antedate to the 1st September, 1930, a claim which he made in the prescribed manner on the 9th September. The only reason he gives is that he was away from home on holiday, that is, for his own personal convenience. His case comes within the principle stated in Rule 2 above, and he fails to show 'good cause' for his delay in claiming or in proving continuity of unemployment."

Case No. 1048/31. (13/1/31.)

SECTION 4 (1) OF 1930 ACT—OFFERS OF SUITABLE EMPLOYMENT—DURATION OF DISALLOWANCE WHERE EMPLOYMENT OFFERED WOULD HAVE LASTED FOR ONLY THREE WEEKS.

The claimant, aged 16, was offered employment on 20th October, 1930, as a van boy, which was expected to last for a period of 3 weeks. Claimant refused the offer, and when questioned as to his reason for not accepting the work stated that he required time to obtain his overalls. Had he explained this to the employer he would have been allowed to fetch them. Another lad was engaged for the work but was employed for only two days.

The Court of Referees decided that the claim should be disallowed for six weeks.

The Insurance Officer disagreed with the Court's decision. In his view as the work offered lasted only for 2 days a disqualification should be imposed for a like period.

Decision by the Deputy Umpire.—"On the facts before me my decision is that the claim for benefit should be disallowed for 3 weeks.

"When a suitable situation is notified or offered in accordance with the provisions of Section 4 (1) of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1930, and it is established that the duration of the employment is in fact limited to a period of less than six weeks, the period of disallowance may generally be limited to the duration of the employment. But the principle of Umpire's Decisions 34/20, †† 8560/30 (not circulated) and similar decisions does not require that disallowance shall in every case be limited to the supposed duration of the employment notified or offered. It not infrequently occurs that a situation offered as temporary may, owing to change of circumstances, become permanent or continue for an uncertain time; and the claimant who without good cause refuses or fails to apply for such a situation, owing to his own default continues for an indefinite time to be a charge on the Unemployment Insurance Fund.

"In the present case it appears that the duration of the employment would have been limited to 3 weeks. The fact that the person who was engaged lost the employment after two days does not show that the claimant, if he had accepted the situation, would not have continued therein for a much longer time."

* See page 15, Vol. VIII, Umpire's Selected Decisions (Pamphlet No. 1/1929) and U.I. Code 8A.

† See page 81, Vol. VII, Umpire's Selected Decisions (Pamphlet No. 6/1928) and U.I. Code 8A.

‡ See page 43, Vol. VIII, Umpire's Selected Decisions (Pamphlet No. 2/1929) and U.I. Code 8A.

§ Not published.

|| See page 203 (Pamphlet No. 12/1930), Umpire's Selected Decisions.

¶ See page 219, Vol. VII, Umpire's Selected Decisions (Pamphlet No. 11/1928).

** See page 94 (Pamphlet No. 7/1930), Umpire's Selected Decisions.

†† See Vol. I, Umpire's Selected Decisions, page 29 and U.I. Code 8.

* See page 193 (Pamphlet No. 11/1930), Umpire's Selected Decisions.

† See page 192 (Pamphlet No. 11/1930), Umpire's Selected Decisions.

‡ See page 126 (Pamphlet No. 8/1930), Umpire's Selected Decisions.

§ See page 144 (Pamphlet No. 9/1930) Umpire's Selected Decisions.

Case No. 2420/31. (3/2/31.)

SECTION 8 (1) OF PRINCIPAL ACT—TRADE DISPUTE—MONMOUTHSHIRE AND SOUTH WALES COLLIERIES.

The circumstances of this case are as stated in the following decision given by the Umpire:—

Decision.—"On the facts before me my decision is that the claim for benefit should be disallowed from the 1st to the 18th January, 1931, inclusive.

"This is an appeal by the Insurance Officer against a decision given by a Court of Referees in South Wales allowing unemployment benefit to the claimant.

"The Insurance Officer had disallowed benefit on the ground that the claimant was disqualified for receiving it under the provisions of Section 8 (1) of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, as he had lost employment by reason of a stoppage of work which was due to a trade dispute at the premises at which he was employed. Against that disallowance the claimant appealed to the Court of Referees, whose decision was not unanimous; the Chairman of the Court dissenting from the decision given by his colleagues which reversed the disallowance of benefit imposed by the Insurance Officer.

"This appeal is brought as a test case, and my decision thereon, I am given to understand, will determine the right of many thousands of colliery workers in South Wales to unemployment benefit for the period from the 1st to the 18th January, 1931, inclusive, when they were without employment.

"The matters which led to this loss of employment were these:—

"On the 13th December, 1926, an agreement was arrived at by the Board of Conciliation for the Coal Trade of Monmouthshire and South Wales which fixed the wages and conditions of employment of colliery workers in the area over which the Board had jurisdiction. It is not necessary for the purposes of this decision to specify those wages and conditions.

"By clause 37 of the agreement, the agreement was to be operative to the 31st December, 1929, and on that date all individual contracts of service between the employers and workmen were to be terminated.

"As it was contemplated in December, 1929, when the agreement would have expired by effluxion of time, that there was a probability of the terms of employment in the coal mining industry being affected by legislative enactment, it was at that date agreed between the parties which constituted the Board of Conciliation to extend the operation of the agreement of the 13th December, 1926, to the 31st December, 1930, or to such time as the Legislature had determined what the conditions of employment in the coal mining industry should be, whichever date was the earlier.

"On the 1st December, 1930, there came into operation Part III of the Coal Mines Act, 1930, which reduced the permissible number of hours during which a workman could be below ground in a coal mine for the purpose of his work and of going to and from his work from eight to seven and a half in any consecutive twenty-four hours, subject to certain conditions and requirements mentioned in the proviso to Section 14 (1) of the Act. In order to appreciate how this reduction of hours from eight to seven and a half is effected by Section 14 (1) of the Coal Mines Act, 1930, it is necessary to refer to three Acts of Parliament in addition to the Coal Mines Act, 1930, viz., the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1908, Sections 1 and 3, the Coal Mines Act, 1919, and the Coal Mines Act, 1926.

"On the coming into operation on the 1st December, 1930, of Part III of the Coal Mines Act, 1930, the extended agreement of the 13th December, 1926, ceased to be operative.

"It had been agreed in the month of November, 1930, that work should continue on day to day contracts during the month of December, but as this agreement provided for eight hours' work a day, with a Saturday each fortnight on which no work should be performed, it offended against the provisions of Section 14 (1) of Part III of the Coal Mines Act, 1930; the requirements of the proviso to that Section not having been complied with.

"On the 31st December, 1930, the colliery owners posted at the various pits in Monmouthshire and South Wales the terms on which they were prepared to afford employment on and after the 1st January, 1931.

"It is not suggested that those terms infringed the provisions of the Coal Mines Act, 1930, or of any other Act of Parliament.

"The terms on which the employers were prepared to give employment on and after the 1st January, 1931, provided (*inter alia*) for a reduction of wages consequent upon a reduction of hours, and for this reason they were not acceptable to the South Wales Miners' Federation, whose members did not present themselves for work on the 1st January. The claimant is one of such members.

"Work was not resumed until the 19th January, when the workmen presented themselves for work, being prepared to accept employment on terms then agreed.

"Prior to the 1st January there had been attempts to agree upon the wages and conditions of employment which should prevail on and after the 1st January, 1931, but no agreement had been reached.

"It is in these circumstances that it has to be decided whether the claimant is disqualified for receiving unemployment benefit from the 1st to the 18th January inclusive under the provisions of Section 8 (1) of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920.

"It was admitted by the learned advocate who appeared for the claimant, that if there had been no 'special circumstances' the stoppage of work had all the elements of a trade dispute. What was contended on behalf of the claimant was that there was no loss of employment by reason of a stoppage of work due to a trade dispute, but that the stoppage of work on the 1st January, 1931, was brought

about by the 'basis of working prior to the 30th November, 1930, being destroyed by statute.' Further it was contended that the loss of employment referred to in Section 8 (1) of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, meant loss of legal employment, and as the employment during the month of December was illegal it must be ignored, from which it followed that the claimant's employment must be deemed to have terminated on the 30th November, 1930, and he could not be said to have lost employment on the 1st January, 1931, by reason of a stoppage of work due to a trade dispute.

"I am unable to accept either of the contentions put forward on behalf of the claimant.

"The claimant and his fellow members of the South Wales Miners' Federation lost employment on the 1st January not because the Legislature had reduced their hours of work, which reduction they were prepared to accept, but because they were not prepared to accept a reduction of wages which the employers were insisting on consequent upon a reduction of hours to be worked.

"Furthermore it cannot be said that the claimant and his fellow workmen must be treated as having been unemployed during the month of December, 1930, and that consequently they did not lose employment on the 1st January, 1931.

"The argument advanced on the claimant's behalf was founded on the supposition that his employment during that month was illegal, and that by Section 7 of the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1908, both he and his employer were liable to conviction and fine in respect of each day on which the claimant was below ground in excess of the statutory number of hours.

"Accepting that statement, the claimant's contention amounts to this, that by the commission of a series of illegal acts he has acquired a right to unemployment benefit which he would not have possessed had his employment been legal. This is a principle which cannot be applied in the administration of the Unemployment Insurance Act as it is opposed to a firmly established principle of law. 'A man shall not have advantage of his own wrong to gain a favourable interpretation of the law' (per Sir Matthew Hale).

"Employment having been lost on 1st January the only question left for determination is whether it was lost by reason of a stoppage of work due to a trade dispute at the premises at which the claimant was employed. If it was, the claimant is disqualified for receiving unemployment benefit for so long as the stoppage of work continued.

"Employment was lost through the claimant and others withdrawing their labour. This caused a stoppage of work until they presented themselves for work and resumed employment on the 19th January. They withdrew their labour because they were not prepared to accept the reduction of wages on which the employers were insisting. This was, in the words of Section 47 (1) (c) of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, which defines a trade dispute 'a dispute between employers and employees which is connected with the terms of employment.'

"From this it follows that the claimant is disqualified for receiving unemployment benefit from the 1st to the 18th January, 1931, inclusive, and that the decision of the Court of Referees must be reversed."

INDUSTRIAL COURTS ACT, 1919, AND CONCILIATION ACT, 1896.

Recent Proceedings.

(A)—INDUSTRIAL COURT DECISIONS.

ASSISTANT INSPECTORS OF POSTAL TRAFFIC, CLASS II.—POST OFFICE.—*Society of Civil Servants v. General Post Office. Difference.*—That Class II Assistant Inspectors of Postal Traffic be allowed Class B (i) rates of subsistence. **Decision.**—The Court granted the claim as from 1st February, 1931. Award issued 14th January. (1489.)

SMITHS, LAMINATED SPRING TRADE.—*Laminated Railway Spring Manufacturers' Association v. Associated Blacksmiths, Forge and Smithy Workers. Difference.*—Piecework prices for making heavy laminated springs. **Decision.**—The Court awarded that, pending the adoption of a new price list, the addition of 25 per cent., to which the piecework prices contained in the List of 24th July, 1922, are at present subject, shall be reduced to 15 per cent., and that the cost-of-living bonus of 5s. per week shall cease as from the beginning of the first pay week following 14th January, 1931. Award issued 14th January, 1931. (1490.)

(B)—CONCILIATORS, SINGLE ARBITRATORS AND AD HOC BOARDS OF ARBITRATION APPOINTED BY THE MINISTER OF LABOUR.

IRON AND STEEL TUBE MANUFACTURE—SOUTH WALES.—*The British Mannesmann Tube Company Limited v. Iron and Steel Trades Confederation. Difference.*—In respect of a proposal made by the Company to revise the working hours of shift workers, to abolish one shift and to revise wages. *Board of Arbitration* consisting of Mr. Charles Doughty, K.C. (Chairman); Mr. H. W. Dunn (Employers' Representative) and Baillie James Walker, M.P. (Workpeople's Representative) appointed under the Industrial Courts Act, 1919, to determine the matter. The members of the Board being unable to agree the matter was left to the Chairman, as Umpire, to decide, and his Award was issued on 28th January.

(C)—OTHER SETTLEMENTS.

[There were no cases under this heading during January.]

RAILWAYS ACT, 1921.

NATIONAL WAGES BOARD.

FINDINGS were issued by the National Wages Board on 7th January, 1931, on the following cases—

Fireman A. Bateup, Bricklayers' Arms—Southern Railway—Ticket Collector G. H. Sykes and Goods Guard G. Roberts, Stockport—London, Midland and Scottish Railway—Claims for holidays not taken owing to illness.—The National Union of Railwaymen claimed that these workers were entitled to receive one week's holiday which they did not receive in 1928 because they were absent from duty owing to illness at the time when they were scheduled to take their holiday, or payment in lieu thereof. The Union relied on paragraph 7 of Circular Letter No. 1786, dated 3rd April, 1919, of which the relevant part is—

"Holidays.—It has been agreed that after 12 months' service, one week's holiday—six week-days—with pay, shall be given to all employees embraced in the Conciliation Scheme Grades."

The Finding of the Board was that the claim of the Union is not covered by the words of paragraph 7 of Circular Letter No. 1786, that the words of this paragraph are vague, and in the circumstances the Board considered that regard should be had to the practice which has continued for the past ten years and found that this practice should not be disturbed.

Chargeman Carriage Cleaner, Margate—Southern Railway—Claim for Increase in Chargeman's Allowance.—The National Union of Railwaymen claimed that Chargeman Carriage Cleaner Bushell, Margate, Southern Railway, was entitled to an additional 2s. per week from 8th July to 18th August, 1929, on the ground that during that period he controlled 14 carriage cleaners, and based their claim on the Second Memorandum on Points of Interpretation dated 24th March, 1921, in Clause 54 (8) of which provision is made that Chargemen Carriage Cleaners shall receive an extra payment of 4s. per week where the number of men controlled is 10 or under and 6s. per week where the number of men is over 10 and under 20. The difference between the parties was as to whether Bushell controlled 14 carriage cleaners, seeing that at no time were 14 on duty under him at one and the same time, although 14 were on duty during some part of Bushell's turn of duty.

The Board found that the allowance to Chargeman Carriage Cleaner Bushell for the period in question should be at the rate of 6s. per week.

Passenger Guards—London, Midland and Scottish and Southern Railway Companies—Qualification as Electric Train Motormen—Allowance—Agreements dated 20th March, 1920, and 27th July, 1928—Question of Interpretation.—The National Union of Railwaymen claimed that the withdrawal without agreement with the Union by the two companies in question of the 2s. 6d. per week allowance to Passenger Guards qualified to act as motormen in cases of emergency is a violation of the National Agreement dated 27th July, 1928.

The Board took the view that the action of the companies was not in contravention of the provisions of the Agreement dated 27th July, 1928.

Signalmen—Elswick Station Box—London and North Eastern Railway—Assessment of Marks for Passing on Messages from Trainmen to Signalmen at other Boxes.—The National Union of Railwaymen claimed that the Signalmen at Elswick Station Box should be allowed 5 marks per message in respect of messages received from drivers which they had to transmit to the signalmen in No. 3 Box, Newcastle, and based their claim on the provisions of the Signalmen's Agreement dated 1st May, 1922.

The Board's Finding was that the claim for 5 marks for the messages in question was not established.

Porters, Grade II—Claim to be Regraded as Porters, Grade I—London, Midland and Scottish Railway.—The National Union of Railwaymen claimed that Porters, Grade II, employed at Attercliffe Road, Northorpe, Linacre Road and Hampton-in-Arden stations, should be regraded as Porters, Grade I, in accordance with Appendix "G" to the Memorandum of Agreement dated 20th March, 1920, which sets out the grades to be eliminated and absorbed in the standard grade of Porter, Grade I. This reads—

"Men in charge of and performing the whole of the indoor and outdoor duties at a halt or station to which a Station Master is not allocated, but which is supervised by the Station Master from another station."

The Finding of the Board was that, as the men in question do not come within the wording of this clause, the claim for regrading has not been made out.

Goods Porters, Swansea—Great Western Railway—Application for Regrading as Sheeters and Ropers.—The National Union of Railwaymen claimed that certain Goods Porters employed at Swansea, Great Western Railway, should be regraded as Sheeters and Ropers on the grounds of the nature of the work they performed.

The Board decided that the men concerned should be regraded as Sheeters and Ropers.

Adult Male Staff employed on Railway Companies' Road Vehicles—Rates of Pay and Conditions of Service.—The National Union of Railwaymen submitted that the Railway Companies are acting irregularly in applying the conditions of service outlined in the Agreement dated 9th April, 1929, to those members of the Adult Male Staff employed on the Railway Companies' road vehicles who had been in the employment of the Companies before 15th April, 1929, the date upon which the Agreement became operative.

The Board took the view, having regard to the difference in opinions expressed as to what was in the minds of the parties when the Agreement of 9th April, 1929, was entered into, that the parties should meet to discuss the matter and consider whether any modification of the present arrangements could be made.

Flagmen and Look-out men—Payment for Sunday Duty—Protecting Artisans paid at double time rates.—The National Union of Railwaymen claimed that Flagmen and Look-out men (other than those solely employed on such duties) should be paid at double time rate when engaged on Sundays protecting artisans performing work payable at double time rate.

The Board's Finding was that the men concerned should be paid at double time rate.

Sentinel Coaches, West Hartlepool—London and North Eastern Railway—Claim for Walking Time Allowance.—The Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen submitted a claim that men operating "Sentinel" coaches, West Hartlepool, should be paid 15 minutes walking time allowance from the relieving point (West Hartlepool Station) to the appointed booking off point (West Hartlepool Shed).

After the hearing of the case and before the consideration of it by the Board, the Company's representatives stated that they desired to submit further evidence in regard to a point raised in cross-examination. The Board took the view that a statement of this additional evidence should be submitted to the Society for their consideration before it is considered by the Board. The Board accordingly adjourned the hearing, with liberty to either party to apply for a date to be fixed for a further hearing of the case.

Driver Locke, Eastleigh—Southern Railway—Claim for Travelling Time.—The Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen submitted that Driver Locke should be paid travelling time for the week ending 28th September, 1929, when he was rostered to perform certain duties at Winchester. Driver Locke travelled from Eastleigh to Winchester and back daily during the week in question and claimed that he was entitled to be paid travelling time for each day, whereas the Company claimed that he was entitled only to payment for the actual hours worked at Winchester, plus travelling time between Eastleigh and Winchester on 23rd September, plus travelling time between Winchester and Eastleigh on 28th September, plus lodging allowance for 5 nights at 3s. 6d. per night.

The Board's Finding was that the claim for payment of travelling time had not been established.

TRADE BOARDS ACTS.

Orders, Notices, etc., Recently Issued.

I.—CONFIRMING ORDER.

Drift Nets Mending Trade Board (Great Britain).

ORDER E. (10), dated 16th January, 1931, confirming the variation of general minimum time-rates, general minimum piece-rates and overtime rates for female workers, and specifying 27th January, 1931, as the date from which such rates should become effective.

II.—NOTICES OF PROPOSAL.

Hair, Bass and Fibre Trade Board (Great Britain).

Proposal H.B. (14), dated 30th January, 1931, to vary the minimum rates of wages for certain classes of male and female workers and to fix general minimum piece-rates and vary the overtime rates for certain classes of workers.

Objection period expires 30th March, 1931.

Jute Trade Board (Great Britain).

Proposal J. (52), dated 7th February, 1931, to vary general minimum time-rates, guaranteed time-rates, general minimum piece-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates for male and female workers.

Objection period expires 30th March, 1931.

Stamped or Pressed Metal Wares Trade Board (Great Britain).

Proposal Q. (35), dated 10th February, 1931, to vary general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates for certain classes of male workers and for certain classes of female workers.

Objection period expires 3rd April, 1931.

III.—CHANGES IN THE MINIMUM RATES OF WAGES DUE TO AN ALTERATION IN COST-OF-LIVING INDEX FIGURE

Lower rates of wages became effective as from 1st February, 1931, in the undermentioned trades. The minimum rates now applicable are those appropriate to the cost of living figure of 53 and are set out in the Confirming Orders quoted below:—

Brush and Broom Trade (Great Britain), M. (46) and (47), column 14.

Chain Trade (Great Britain), C. (25) and C. (27), column 7.

TRADE BOARDS INSPECTORATE (GREAT BRITAIN).

For the purpose of the general enforcement in Great Britain of the Trade Boards Acts, 1909 and 1918, and the inspection of firms engaged in industries in which minimum rates of wages have been fixed under these Acts, the country is divided into eight divisions, each in charge of a senior inspector. The areas covered by the eight Divisional Offices, with their addresses and telephone numbers, are given below; and communications should be sent to "the Senior Officer, Ministry of Labour, Trade Boards Division," at the addresses shown:—

South-Eastern Division (I) (comprising London—East, East Central, North, and North-West; Essex, Suffolk, Norfolk, Cambridgeshire, Huntingdonshire, Middlesex, Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, and Hertfordshire):—

Queen Anne's Chambers, Broadway, Westminster, London, S.W. 1.

(Tel. No. : Victoria 8020.)

South-Eastern Division (II) (comprising London—South-East, South-West, West, and West Central; Kent, Surrey, and Sussex):—

Queen Anne's Chambers, Broadway, Westminster, London, S.W. 1.

(Tel. No. : Victoria 8020.)

South-Western Division (comprising Oxfordshire, Berkshire, Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Gloucestershire, Wiltshire, Dorset, Somerset, Devon, and Cornwall):—

34, Tyndall's Park Road, Bristol.

(Tel. No. : Bristol 7801.)

Midland Division (comprising Warwickshire, Northamptonshire, Rutland, Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Staffordshire, Worcestershire, Herefordshire, and Shropshire):—

205, Corporation Street, Birmingham.

(Tel. No. : Birmingham, Central 2511-2.)

North-Eastern Division (comprising Yorkshire, Lincolnshire, Durham and Northumberland):—

Stansfeld Chambers, 6, Great George Street, Leeds.

(Tel. No. : Leeds 22425.)

North-Western Division (comprising Lancashire, Cheshire, Westmorland, and Cumberland):—

270, Oxford Road, Manchester.

(Tel. No. : Ardwick 1868.)

Scottish Division (comprising the whole of Scotland):—

26, Buckingham Terrace, Edinburgh.

(Tel. No. : Edinburgh 30585.)

Welsh Division (comprising the whole of Wales and Monmouthshire):—

Principality Buildings, Queen Street, Cardiff.

(Tel. No. : Cardiff 5253.)

ELECTRICITY (SUPPLY) ACTS, 1882 TO 1928.

NORTH WEST MIDLANDS ELECTRICITY DISTRICT ORDER, 1928.

Joint Authority : Representative of Workers in the Industry.

The Minister of Labour hereby gives notice that as soon as may be after the 23rd day of February, 1931, she will designate to the North West Midlands Joint Electricity Authority, in accordance with Section 2 (10) of Part I of the first annex to the Schedule to the North West Midlands Electricity District Order, 1928, the employees' organisations having members in the employment of authorised undertakers in the district, in order that the organisations so designated may choose a representative of persons employed in connection with the supply of electricity in the district to be a member of the Joint Authority.

Any employees' organisation which is desirous of being considered by the Minister for designation under the said Section 2 (10) should make application in writing to the Minister not later than the 21st day of February, 1931, on the form provided for the purpose, of which copies may be obtained from the Secretary, Ministry of Labour, Montagu House, Whitehall, London, S.W. 1.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

CHILD LABOUR.—*The age of admission of children to employment in non-industrial occupations.* Report. International Labour Office. (Geneva, 1931; price 2s. 6d.)

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS.—*Studies on industrial relations. I. Studies and Reports, Series A.* (Industrial Relations) No. 33. (Published in London for the International Labour Office by P. S. King & Son, Ltd.; price 5s.) (See page 52.)

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE.—*International Labour Conference, fourteenth session, Geneva, 10th to 28th June, 1930. Report to the Minister of Labour by the delegates of His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.* (Cmd. 3774; price 6d.)

LABOUR LEGISLATION.—*Legislative series. Vol. VIII, 1927, Part II. (Ecuador to United States of America). Part III, Indexes.* (Published in London for the International Labour Office by P. S. King & Son, Ltd.; price £1 15s. for three parts.)

NAVY, ARMY AND AIR FORCE INSTITUTES.—*Conditions of women staff employed in the Navy, Army, and Air Force Institutes. Report of Committee appointed by the Minister of Labour.* (Cmd. 3769; price 2d.) (See page 49.)

STATISTICAL ABSTRACT.—*Statistical Abstract for the United Kingdom for each of the fifteen years, 1913 and 1916 to 1929. Seventy-fourth number.* Board of Trade, in conjunction with the Ministry of Labour, and the Registrars-General. (Cmd. 3767; price 6s.)

TECHNICAL EDUCATION.—*The junior technical school.* Educational Pamphlets, No. 83. Board of Education. (S.O. publication; price 6d.)

TRADE BOARDS.—*Report by Sir Arthur Colefax, K.B.E., K.C., on a public inquiry with regard to the Draft Special Order applying the Trade Boards Acts, 1909 and 1918 to the catering trade.* Ministry of Labour. (S.O. publication; price 6d.)

TRADE UNIONS.—*Report of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies for 1930. Part 4. Trade Unions. Section II. Directory and summaries.* (S.O. publication; price 2s.) (See p. 51.)

UNEMPLOYMENT.—*Unemployment and public works. Studies and Reports. Series C. (Employment and Unemployment) No. 15.* (Published in London for the International Labour Office by P. S. King & Son, Ltd.; price 4s.)

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.—(i) *Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1920 to 1930. Unemployment Fund Account, 1929.* (H.C. 25; price 1d.) (ii) *Selected decisions given by the Umpire on claims for benefit.* U.I. Code 8B (formerly U.I. 440). Pamphlet 12/1930 December, 1930. Ministry of Labour. (S.O. publication; price 6d.)

VITAL STATISTICS.—*The Registrar-General's statistical review of England and Wales for the year 1929.* (New Annual Series, No. 9.) Text. (S.O. publication; price 2s. 6d.)

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION.—*Statistics of compensation and proceedings under the Workmen's Compensation Acts, and the Employers' Liability Act, 1880, in Great Britain during the year 1929.* Home Office. (Cmd. 3781; price 6d.)

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

LIST OF NEW CONTRACTS, JANUARY, 1931:

ADMIRALTY.

(Civil Engineer-in-Chief's Department.)

Loch Long : Erection of Six Workmen's Cottages : Leslie Kirk, Ltd., Clydebank.—**Chatham : Paving Blocks :** Gabriel Wade & English, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Peterhead : Portland Cement :** Casebourne & Co. (1926), Ltd., Stockton-on-Tees.—**Yard Abroad : Portland Cement :** The Cement Marketing Co., Ltd., London, S.W.

(Contract and Purchase Department.)

Alternators, Motor : Haslam & Newton, Ltd., Derby.—**Bed-plates, Main Engines :** Vickers-Armstrongs, Ltd., Barrow-in-Furness.—**Bells, Electric :** Bonnella Bros., Ltd., London, N.W.; Engineering and Lighting Equipment Co., Ltd., St. Albans; Hawkers, Ltd., Birmingham; Wm. McGeoch & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Belting, Leather :** Bell Rock Belting Co., Ltd., Manchester; Card Clothing and Belting, Ltd., Halifax; S. E. Norris & Co., Ltd., London, E.; Patent Anhydrous Leather Co., Ltd., Portsmouth.—**Bolts, Nickel Steel Cylinder Head :** Thos. Firth & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Brackets, Cast Steel :** F. H. Lloyd & Co., Ltd., Wednesbury; Head Wrightson & Co., Ltd., Thornaby-on-Tees.—**Cable, Electric :** Connollys (Blackley), Ltd., Manchester; Croydon Cable Works, Ltd., Croydon; Enfield Cable Works, Ltd., Brimsdown; General Electric Co., Ltd., Southampton; Hackbridge Cable Co., Ltd., Hackbridge.—**Capstans, Electric :** Babcock & Wilcox, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Casting, Rudder Frame :** W. Beardmore & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Cells, Inert :** Fuller Accumulator Co. (1926), Ltd., Chadwell Heath; General Electric Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Cells, Secondary :** London Battery and Cable Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Centres :** British United Shoe Machinery Co., Ltd., Leicester.—**Cloth, Cotton Cleaning :** A. Robertshaw & Sons, Ltd., Mytholmroyd; The Healey Wood Mill Co., Ltd., Burnley; The Fairlea Mill Co., Ltd., Luddendenfoot.—**Cloth, Woollen :** Jas. Harper & Sons, Calverly.—**Column, Liquefaction for Oxygen Plant :** British Oxygen Co., Ltd., London, N.—**Compressor :** Reavell & Co., Ltd., Ipswich.—**Counterpanes, etc. :** Barlow & Jones, Ltd., Bolton.—**Cranes, Steam Travelling :** Joseph Booth and Bros., Ltd., Leeds.—**Cranks, Main Engine :** W. Beardmore & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Dressings, Surgical :** Robert Bailey and Son, Ltd., Stockport; S. Maw, Son and Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; T. J. Smith and Nephew, Ltd., Hull; W. G. Taylor, Birmingham.—**Fans, Table :** General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Fire Extinguishers :** Pyrene Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Fittings, Electric Light :** Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., Ponders End; Engineering and Lighting Equipment Co., Ltd., St. Albans; Gabriel & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C.; Kensington Stamping Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Wm. McGeoch & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Player, Mitchell and Breeden, Birmingham; Rainsford and Lynes, Ltd., Birmingham; Revo Electric Co., Ltd., Tipton; Veritys, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Flour :** J. Rank, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Hides and**

Leather : George Angus & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne; Barrowfield Leather Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Barrow, Hepburn & Gale, Ltd., London, S.E.; S. E. Norris & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Hoses, Bronze :** Power Flexible Tubing Co., Ltd., London, N.—**Lamps, Electric :** General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.—**Lampholders :** Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., Ponders End, Middlesex; General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C.; Samuel Heath & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Wm. McGeech & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Rainsford and Lynes, Ltd., Birmingham; Sperry & Co., Birmingham; Player, Mitchell and Breeden, Birmingham.—**Lamp Glasses, Shades, etc. :** Butterworth Bros., Ltd., Manchester; Hailwood & Ackroyd, Ltd., Morley, Leeds; Josiah Lane and Sons, Ltd., Dudley; S. & W. (Lighting), Ltd., Tipton.—**Lathes :** Denhams Engineering Co., Ltd., Halifax; T. S. Harrison & Sons, Ltd., Heckmondwike.—**Lathes, Capstan :** Alfred Herbert, Ltd., Coventry.—**Lathe, Turret :** H. W. Ward & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Leads, Telephone :** Ward & Goldstone, Ltd., Manchester.—**Life-buoys and Belts :** Speeding, Ltd., Sunderland; Steedman & McAlister, Glasgow; J. Wilson & Co. (Govan), Ltd., Glasgow.—**Lift, Electric :** A. and P. Steven, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Liners, Forged Steel Cylinder :** Vickers-Armstrongs, Ltd., Barrow-in-Furness.—**Machine, Grinding :** John Lund, Ltd., Keighley.—**Machine, Jogging, Plate :** Henry Berry & Co., Ltd., Leeds.—**Machines, Milling :** Alfred Herbert, Ltd., Coventry; Ward Haggas and Smith, London, S.W.—**Machine, Planing :** Ward Haggas and Smith, London, S.W.—**Machine, Profiling :** J. Parkinson and Son, Shipley, Yorks.—**Machine, Marmalade :** Chivers and Sons, Ltd., Histon; Crosbie's Pure Food Co., Ltd., Southall; J. Stephens, Son, & Co., Ltd., Gloucester.—**Mica :** Attwater and Sons, Preston; Dacier, Ltd., London, S.E.; Mica Mfg. Co., Ltd., Bromley; L. Vandervelde, London, E.—**Micanite :** Attwater and Sons, Preston; Mica Mfg. Co., Ltd., Bromley; Micanite and Insulators Co., Ltd., London, E.; Mica and Micanite Supplies, Ltd., London, N.; A. Pearce & Co., Birmingham; R. Whiffin, Ltd., Manchester.—**Mill, Precision Rolling :** W. H. A. Robertson & Co., Ltd., Bedford.—**Milk, Condensed, Unsweetened :** Nestlé and Anglo-Swiss Condensed Milk Co., Staveron.—**Motor-Generator-Alternator Sets and Spares :** Small Electric Motors, Ltd., Beckenham.—**Nails, Copper :** Whitecross Co., Ltd., Warrington; D. Powis & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Armistead and Grimshaw, Ltd., Leeds; Tower Mfg. Co., Ltd., Worcester; J. Stone & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Cooper & Turner, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Paint, Black :** Burrell & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Plates, Boiler :** The British (Guest, Keen, Baldwins) Iron and Steel Co., Ltd., Cardiff; The Park Gate Iron and Steel Co., Ltd., Rotherham; D. Colville & Sons, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Plywood :** Aeronautical and Panel Plywood Co., Ltd., London, E.; Tucker Armoured Plywood Co., Ltd., Crayford.—**Radiators, Electric :** Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., Ponders End.—**Resistances for Electric Welding :** Allen West & Co., Ltd., Brighton.—**Rod, Connecting :** Vickers-Armstrongs, Ltd., Barrow-in-Furness.—**Sailcloth, Canvas :** The Gourcock Ropework Co., Ltd., Port Glasgow; The Port Glasgow and Newark Sailcloth Co., Ltd., Port Glasgow; F. Webster & Sons, Arbroath; The Boase Spinning Co. (1920), Ltd., Dundee; Baxter Bros. & Co., Ltd., Dundee; Richards, Ltd., Aberdeen; Anderson and Chalmers, Arbroath.—**Sand Blast Equipment :** J. W. Jackman & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Sections, H.S.T. :** Lanarkshire Steel Co., Ltd., Motherwell.—**Separator, Oil :** Stream Line Filter Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Silicate Cotton :** J. C. Broadbent & Co., Ltd., Redcar.—**Steering Gear Equipment :** John Hastie & Co., Ltd., Greenock.—**Switch-gear :** Ferguson Pailin, Ltd., Manchester; Erskine Heap & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Tape, Adhesive :** Connollys (Blackley), Ltd., Manchester.—**Tins :** Huntley, Boorne and Stevens, Ltd., Reading.—**Travellers, Electric :** Isles, Ltd., Leeds.—**Tubes, Cast Steel Shaft :** F. H. Lloyd & Co., Ltd., Wednesbury; W. Shaw & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough.—**Tuner Amplifiers and Coils W/T :** Radio Instruments, Ltd., Croydon.—**Varnishes, Lacquers, Polishes, etc. :** L. Berger & Sons, Ltd., London, E.; Blundell Spence & Co., Hull; Colthurst and Harding, Ltd., Bristol; Gross, Sherwood and Heald, Ltd., Barking; W. S. Jenkins & Co., London, N.; Jenson and Nicholson, Ltd., London, E.; London Varnish and Enamel Co., Ltd., London; A. Vickers, Ltd., Strood; Walpamur Co., Ltd., Darwen.—**Vehicles, Six-Wheeled :** Morris Commercial Cars, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Wheels, Mitre :** Clegg & Howgate, Ltd., Bingley.—**Winch :** Cowans Sheldon & Co., Ltd., Carlisle.—**Winch, Trawl :** James Robertson & Sons (Fleetwood), Ltd., Fleetwood.

WAR OFFICE.

Acetone : Barter Trading Corporation, Ltd., Hull.—**Acid, Sulphuric :** Spencer, Chapman & Messel, Ltd., London, E.—**Ambulance Bodies :** W. H. Perry, Ltd., London, N.—**Asbestos Protected Metal Sheets :** Cellacite & British Uralite, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Belts, Waist :** D. Mason & Sons, Ltd., Walsall.—**Blankets, Brown :** T. & D. Lee & Sons, Ltd., Dewsbury; Wormalds & Walkers, Ltd., Dewsbury.—**Blankets, White :** T. Radcliffe & Co., Ltd., Mytholmroyd.—**Bodies for Six-wheeled Vehicles :** Chas. Roberts & Co., Ltd., Wakefield.—**Boots, Mosquito :** Adams Bros. (Raunds) Ltd., Raunds.—**Braces :** George Aked, Halifax.—**Brake Drums :** J. I. Thornycroft & Co., Ltd., Basingstoke.—**Brass Bar :** Manganese Bronze & Brass Co., Ltd., Ipswich.—**Brooms, Soft, Heads :** C. H. Leng & Sons, Birmingham.—**Brushes, Blacking and Brass :** Jas. Root & Son, London, N.—**Brushes, Clothes :** C. H. Leng & Sons, Birmingham.—**Brushes, Hair :** C. H. Leng & Sons, Birmingham; G. B. Kent & Sons, Ltd., Hemel Hempstead.—**Brushes, Polishing :** Beachwood, Ltd., Chesham; Moss & Paddock, Bolton.—**Brushes, Shaving :** Britannia Brass Works, Ltd., London, N.; J. Root & Son, London, N.—**Brushes, Tooth :** G. B. Kent & Sons, Ltd., Hemel Hempstead.—**Candles, Smoke :** Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., Roslin.—**Cases, W.P. :** Wenn, Ltd., Great Yar-

month; T. E. Dingwall, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Cisterns and Cylinders :** National Galvanisers, Ltd., Sunderland.—**Coats, Warm :** L. Silberston & Sons, London, E.—**Coir Fibre :** J. H. Vavasseur & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Cooking Apparatus :** Adams & Sons, London, S.W.—**Copper Ingot :** Anglo Metal Corporation, Ltd., London, E.C.; British Metal Corporation, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Cresoli :** Burt, Boulton & Haywood, Ltd., London, E.—**Cylinders, Iron :** F. Francis & Sons, Ltd., London.—**Dowles, Tan :** Richards, Ltd., Aberdeen.—**Dressings, Field :** S. Maw, Son & Sons, Ltd., New Barnet.—**Floor Polish :** Fortune & Co., Preston.—**Forks and Spoons :** Mappin & Webb, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Generating Sets :** Ruston & Hornsby, Ltd., Lincoln.—**Glass, Window :** Pilkington Bros., Ltd., St. Helens.—**Knives, Table :** Sheffield Steel Products, Ltd., Sheffield; Francis Greaves & Sons, Sheffield.—**Lathes :** Denham Engg. Co., Ltd., Halifax.—**Lead, Alloy :** Eyre Smelting Co., Ltd., London.—**Lead, Pig :** H. Gardner & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Lockers, Metal :** Waddells (Stratford Steel Equipment), Ltd., London, E.—**Metal Melting Furnace :** Metropolitan-Vickers Electrical Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Mop Heads :** T. M. Clewes & Son, Cradley, Staffs.—**Motor Cars :** Austin Motor Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Riley (Coventry), Ltd., Coventry.—**Motor Cars, Six-wheeled, and Motor Vans :** Morris Commercial Cars, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Overalls, Combination :** J. Compton, Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E.—**Pagris :** E. Spinner & Co., Preston.—**Pantaloons, Bedford Cord :** G. Glanfield & Sons, London, E.; L. Silberston & Sons, London, E.—**Pins, Tent, Wood :** D. Vanderstegen, Reading.—**Pipes, Hose, Canvas :** Wm. Rose Hose Co., Ltd., Manchester; F. Reddaway & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Rags, Old :** W. C. Jones, Ltd., Manchester.—**Roofing Composition :** Industrial Engg. Ltd., London, N.W.—**Rugs, Axminster :** Tomkinsons, Ltd., Kidderminster.—**Screws, Wood :** British Screw Co., Ltd., Leeds.—**Shirting, Angola :** J. Harper & Sons, Bradford.—**Shirts, Angola, Blue :** Milns, Cartwright, Reynolds, Ltd., London, E.—**Skins, Chamois :** E. Cope & Son, Nuneaton.—**Socks, Worsted :** A. Yates & Co., Sibley; H. Bates & Co., Ltd., South Wigston; Hall & Son, Stoke Golding.—**Spun Yarn :** Forth & Clyde Roperie Co., Kirkcaldy.—**Stair Treads :** Safety Tread Syndicate, Ltd., London, E.; Ferodo, Ltd., Chapel-en-le-Frith.—**Steel Bars :** J. Brown & Co., Ltd., Sheffield.—**Steel Sheets, Galvanised Corrugated :** Burnell & Co., Ltd., Liverpool.—**Stoves, Soyers :** Rippingilles Albion Lamp Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Tractors, Six-ton :** Vickers-Armstrongs, Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne.—**Zinc Ingot :** British Metal Corporation, Ltd., London, E.C.; H. Gardner & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Works Services :** *Building Works and Services :* Cardiff, Maendy Barracks, Dining Room, Cookhouse, etc.: T. F. Howells, Ltd., Caerphilly. Chatham, Southill Barracks, Erection of Garage: A. D. Dawnay & Sons, Ltd., London, S.W. Deepcut Camp, Erection of Cookhouse and Dining Room Block: T. H. Jones Farnborough. Lydd, Erection of Gymnasium Block: R. J. Barwick, Dover. Chatham, Artificers' Work: H. Goodsell, Maidstone, Lichfield, Whittington Barracks, Dining Room, etc.: F. Perks & Sons, Ltd., Long Eaton. Aldershot, Buller Barracks, Single Officers' Quarter: G. Kemp, Stroud & Co., Ltd., Aldershot. Woolwich, Royal Arsenal, etc., Artificers' Work: H. J. Gower, Ltd., London, E.C. Aldershot, Waterloo Barracks (East), Cookhouse and Dining Room Block: Lee Bros. (Aldershot), Ltd., Aldershot. Blackdown and Deepcut, Provision of Wardrobe Cupboards in Married Soldiers' Quarters: Caesar Bros., Ltd., Aldershot. Aldershot, Buller Barracks, Alterations and additions to R.A.S.C. Officers' Mess: H. T. Hill, Farnborough. Woolwich, Provide Bath Rooms with W.C.'s to Warrant Officers' Quarters: G. E. Wallis & Sons, Gravesend. Dregthorn Castle, Installation of Electric Lighting: Grindlay Ross & Co., Ltd., Glasgow. Bristol, Horfield Barracks, Re-appropriation of Hospital Reception Station: F. H. Biddiscombe, Trowbridge.—*Tilshead, West Down Camp, Erection of Latrines :* W. E. Chivers & Sons, Ltd., Devizes. Gosport, Fort Brockhurst, Improvements to Regimental Institute: John Hunt, Ltd., Gosport. Lichfield, Whittington Barracks, Reconstruct Destructor Plant: New Destructor Co., Ltd., Pershore. Scarborough, Electric Lighting: Wm. Sykes & Son, Darlington. Scarborough, Vehicle Shed: A. Moore & Son, Scarborough.

AIR MINISTRY.

Aircraft : Blackburn Aero and Motor Co., Ltd., Brough, Yorks; Cierva Auto Giro Co., Ltd., London, W.C.; Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex; H. G. Hawker Engr. Co., Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames; Handley Page, Ltd., London, N.W.—**Aircraft, Repairs and Spares :** Blackburn Aeroplane and Motor Co., Ltd., Brough, Yorks.—**Aircraft Spares :** Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol; Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex; H. G. Hawker Engr. Co., Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames; Sir W. G. Armstrong Whitworth Aircraft, Ltd., Coventry; Vickers (Aviation), Ltd., Weybridge.—**Aircscrew Blades :** Metal Propellers, Ltd., Croydon.—**Aircscrews :** Aircscrew Co., Weybridge; Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex.—**Belts, Safety :** Mills Equipment Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Bomb Release Slips, Skeleton :** Handley Page, Ltd., London, N.W.—**Bombs, Empty :** Hadfields, Ltd., Sheffield; Vickers-Armstrongs, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Bombs, Reconditioning :** Vosper & Co., Ltd., Portsmouth.—**Buildings and Works Services :** Aeroplane Shed (Berk Row, Suffolk): Wright, Anderson & Co., Ltd., Gateshead-on-Tyne. Bulk Petrol Installation: Rigg & Remington, Ltd., London, S.W. Maintenance Work (Filton): F. H. Biddiscombe, Trowbridge. Steelwork (Farnborough): Dorman Long & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough. **Curtains, Mosquito :** Donald & Co., Nottingham; Thomas Briggs (London), Ltd., London, E.C.—**Dopes :** British Celanese, Ltd., London, S.W.; Cellon, Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames.—**Engines, Aircraft and Spares :** Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol.—**Engines, Aircraft, Jigs :** Gillett, Stephen & Co.,

Ltd., Great Bookham.—**Engines, Aircraft, Jigs and Tools**: D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.—**Engines, Aircraft, Magnetos**: British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd., Coventry.—**Engines, Aircraft, Rebuilding**: D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.—**Engines, Aircraft, Repairs and Spares**: D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.—**Engines, Aircraft, Spares**: Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—**Ethylene, Glycol**: Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Generators**: Haslam & Newton, Ltd., Derby; Mortley Sprague & Co., Ltd., Tunbridge Wells; M. L. Magneto Syndicate, Ltd., Coventry.—**Hose, Armoured**: Superflexit, Ltd., Slough.—**Lifting Jacks**: Ransomes, Sims & Jefferies, Ltd., Ipswich.—**Location Lights, Maintenance**: Gas Accumulator Co. (U.K.), Ltd., Brentford.—**Machines, Washing**: Thos. Bradford & Co., London, W.C.—**Mattresses, Hospital**: Thos. Briggs (London), Ltd., London, E.C.—**Pilots' Assistants**: S. G. Brown, Ltd., London, W.—**Radiators, Aircraft**: Serck Radiators, Ltd., Gateshead-on-Tyne.—**Radiators, Aircraft and Cases**: Excelsior Motor Radiator Co., Ltd., Leeds; John Marston, Ltd., Wolverhampton.—**Receivers**: Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Speaking Tubes**: De Havilland Aircraft Co., Ltd., Edgware.—**Spindles, Shackles, etc.**: Ransomes, Sims & Jefferies, Ltd., Ipswich.—**Tractors**: Allan Taylor & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Tyres**: Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Valves**: Mullard Radio Valve Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Wheels, Aero**: Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., Birmingham.

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Ammunition: I.C.I. Metals, Ltd., Witton, Birmingham.—**Asbestos Cement Sheeting**: Asbestos Cement Building Products, London, E.C.—**Aseptic Furniture**: Down Bros., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Automatic Exchanges**: General Electric Co., Ltd., Coventry.—**Axleboxes**: Birmingham Railway Carriage & Wagon Co., Smethwick.—**Biscam**: Modern Pharmacals, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Boiler**: Babcock & Wilcox, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Bolts and Nuts**: Nuts & Bolts (Darlaston), Ltd., Darlaston.—**Boots**: Adams Bros., Ltd., Raunds; Stephen Walker, Walgrave; Wilkins & Denton, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Brake Blocks**: Pease & Partners, Ltd., Middlesbrough.—**Cable**: British Insulated Cables, Ltd., London, W.C.; Macintosh Cable Co., Ltd., Derby.—**Car**: Daimler Co., Ltd., Coventry.—**Carriage and Wagon Spares**: Gloucester Railway Carriage and Wagon Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; Metropolitan Cammell Carriage Wagon and Finance Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Cement**: Cement Marketing Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Cloth**: J. Watkinson & Sons, Ltd., Holmfirth.—**Clothing**: T. Briggs (London), Ltd., London, E.C.; J. Compton Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E.; Hobson & Sons (London), Ltd., London, S.E.—**Coal Tar**: South Metropolitan Gas Co., London, S.E.—**Cotton Banians**: I. & R. Morley: London, E.C.—**Drill**: E. Spinner & Co., Manchester.—**Electric Motors**: Lancashire Dynamo & Motor Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Electrical Materials**: Chloride Elec. Storage Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Elevating Trucks**: H. Morris, Ltd., Loughborough.—**Explosives**: Nobel's Explosives Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Felt Mats**: Mitchells, Ashworth Stansfield & Co., Ltd., Waterfoot.—**Fishbolts**: Anderston Foundry Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough.—**Furniture**: Heal & Son, Ltd., London, W.—**Grinding Machine**: Churchill Machine Tool Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Lightning Arresters**: Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Liquaphalt**: Berry Wiggins & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Lymph**: Lister Institute, Marazion.—**Machine Tools**: Loudon Bros. (London), Ltd., London, S.W.—**Meters**: G. Kent, Ltd., Luton; Manchester Water Meter Co., Manchester.—**Novarsenobillon**: May & Baker, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Oil**: The Vacuum Oil Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; C. C. Wakefield & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Paint**: The Torbay Paint Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Paper**: Chas. Morgan & Co., Ltd., London, W.C.; The North of Ireland Paper Mill Co., Ltd., Ballyclare; Reed & Smith, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Patent Fuel**: Elder Dempster & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Pipes**: Allen & Maclellan, Ltd., Glasgow; Stanton Ironworks Co., Ltd., Nottingham; Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Poles**: J. Spencer, Ltd., Wednesbury.—**Quinine**: Howards & Sons, Ltd., Ilford.—**Rail Anchors**: P. & M. Co. (England), Ltd., London, S.W.—**Rail Clips**: Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Rails**: Lancashire Steel Corporation, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Rails and Fishplates**: Barrow Haematite Steel Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; Cargo Fleet Iron Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough.—**Saw Mill Machinery**: Marshall Sons & Co., Ltd., Gainsborough.—**Signalling Materials**: Westinghouse Brake and Saxby Signal Co., Ltd., London, N.—**Sodium Arsenate**: Wm. Blythe & Co., Ltd., Church, Lancs.—**Spares for Dredger**: Fleming & Ferguson, Ltd., Paisley.—**Spares for Pumps**: Messrs. Sir W. B. Bailey & Co., Ltd., Salford.—**Spindles for Buoys**: Brown, Lenox & Co., Ltd., Pontypridd.—**Steel Sheets**: Wolverhampton C.I. Co., Ltd., Wirral, Cheshire.—**Steel Sleepers**: Dorman Long & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough; United Steel Cos., Ltd., Workington.—**Steel Rods**: P. & W. Maclellan, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Steel Tank**: Whessoe Foundry and Engineering Co., Ltd., Darlington.—**Steel Tyres**: S. Fox & Co., Ltd., Sheffield.—**Steelwork**: Braithwaite & Co., Engineers, Ltd., London, S.W.; Head, Wrightson & Co., Ltd., Thornaby on Tees; E. C. & J. Keay, Ltd., Birmingham; F. Morton & Co., Ltd., Liverpool; Tees Side Bridge & Engineering Works, Ltd., Middlesbrough.—**Stonebreaker**: Goodwin, Barsby & Co., Ltd., Leicester.—**Stone-crushing Plant**: Winget, Ltd., Warwick.—**Switches and Crossings**: Darlington Railway Plant & Foundry Co., Ltd., Darlington.—**Tank Bodies**: Nasmyth, Wilson & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Telegraph Ironwork**: Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Telephone Switchboards**: Ericsson Telephones, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Tiles**: Malkin Tiles (Burslem), Ltd., Burslem.—**Tyres**: J. Baker & Bessemer, Ltd., Rotherham; Blaenavon Co., Ltd., Blaenavon; Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Taylor Bros. & Co., Ltd., Manchester**.—**Varnish**: R. Kearsley & Co., Ltd., Ripon.—**Vehicle Plates**: James Bruton & Sons, London, N.—**Water Tanks**: Newton, Chambers & Co., Ltd., Sheffield.—**Waterworks Material**: Glenfield & Kennedy, Ltd., Kilmarnock.—**Weighbridge**: H. Pooley & Son,

Ltd., Birmingham.—**Wire**: Whitecross Co., Ltd., Warrington.—**Wireless Apparatus**: Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Co., Ltd., London, W.C.

H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

Cardboards: Wiggins, Teape & A. Pirie (Sales), Ltd., Bucksburn.—**Cloth, Tracing**: Morley Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Eccles.—**Cord**: Belfast Ropework Co., Ltd., Belfast.—**Envelopes**: McCorquodale & Co., Ltd., Wolverton.—**Paper**: Caldwell's Paper Mill Co., Ltd., Inverkeithing; Carrongrove Paper Co., Ltd., Denny; J. Cropper & Co., Ltd., Kendal; Alex. Cowan & Sons, Ltd., Penicuik; Culter Mills Paper Co., Ltd., Peterculter; East Lancashire Paper Mill Co., Ltd., Radcliffe, Manchester; Golden Valley Paper Mills Ltd., Bitton; Wiggins, Teape & A. Pirie (Sales), Ltd., Bucksburn.—**Pencils**: Royal Sovereign Pencil Co., Ltd., London, N.W.—**Printing, Ruling, Binding, etc.**: Group 252 (1931), N. Ireland—Parliamentary Printing: Bell & Logan, Ltd., Belfast; Group 335 (1930), Bookwork Printing: H.M.S.O. Press, London, S.E.; Group 343 (1931), Printing and Bookbinding: Harrison & Sons, Ltd., London, W.C.; Binding Assessment Books: McCorquodale & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Binding 60,000 Army Book 64: Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.

POST OFFICE.

Apparatus, Protective: Automatic Telephone Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Liverpool; Telephone Manufacturing Co. (1929), Ltd., London, S.E.—**Apparatus, Telephonic**: Automatic Telephone Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Liverpool; Ericsson Telephones, Ltd., Beeston, Notts; General Electric Co., Ltd. (Telephone Works), Stoke, Coventry and Birmingham; Siemens Brothers & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, N. and N.W.; Telephone Manufacturing Co. (1929), Ltd., London, S.E.—**Apparatus, Wireless**: Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, N.W.—**Boxes, Battery**: Robert Edwards, Hale, Cheshire.—**Brackets**: David Willetts, Ltd., Cradley Heath.—**Cabinets, Telephone**: Boulton & Paul, Ltd., Norwich.—**Cable**: British Insulated Cables, Ltd., Prescott; Connollys (Blackley), Ltd., Manchester; General Electric Co., Ltd., Southampton; W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Cable, Submarine**: Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Telegraph Construction & Maintenance Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Capping Steel**: Walls, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Carbonic Acid Gas**: Carbon Dioxide Co., Ltd., London, W.; John Bennett Lawes & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Cases, Ebonite**: India Rubber, Gutta Percha & Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., Burton-on-Trent.—**Casks**: Tyson & Co. (Millwall), Ltd., London, E.—**Cells, Dry**: Ever Ready Co. (Great Britain), Ltd., London, N.; Fuller Accumulator Co. (1926), Ltd., Chadwell Heath; General Electric Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Cells, Secondary, and Parts**: D.P. Battery Co., Ltd., Bakewell; Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., Ponders End; Hart Accumulator Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Chloride of Ammonia**: Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., Northwich.—**Cleaners, Vacuum**: British Vacuum Cleaner & Engineering Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Cords, Telephone**: Phoenix Telephone & Electric Works, Ltd., London, N.W.—**Covers and Frames**: United Steel Companies, Ltd., Wellingborough.—**Hydrometers**: F. C. R. Holland & Co., London, E.C.—**Lamps, Bicycle**: H. Miller & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Methylated Spirit**: Methylating Co., Ltd., London, W.—**Motor Vehicles and Bodies**: Albion Motor Car Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Duple Bodies & Motors, Ltd., London, N.W.; Morris Commercial Cars, Ltd., Birmingham; Morris Motors, Ltd., Cowley.—**Oil, Lubricating**: Shell-Mex, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Plates, Earth**: Locke Blackett & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Rectifiers, Tungar**: Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., Ponders End.—**Reinforcing Material**: British Reinforced Concrete Engineering Co., Ltd., Stafford; Grip Steel Bar Co., Ltd., Warrington; Indented Bar and Concrete Engineering Co., Ltd., Rogerstone.—**Screws, Coach**: Thomas William Lench, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Wire, Covered**: British Insulated Cables, Ltd., Helsby; Connollys (Blackley), Ltd., Manchester; Reliance Electrical Wire Co., Ltd., London, E.C.

Batteries—Enlargement: Taplow (Bucks) Telephonic Repeater Station: Pritchett and Gold and E.P.S. Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Conduits—Laying**: Ipswich: J. F. Hodge, Selly Oak. Wolverhampton and District; Deptford, etc.: Hodge Bros. (Contractors), Ltd., Northfield. Birmingham (West): W. Willetts & Son, Ltd., Kingswinford. St. Pancras; Fleet (Hants), Clandon (Surrey) and West Chilton (Sussex); Hornsey, etc.; Willesden, etc.; and Sydenham (Hurstbourne Road): O. C. Summers, London, N. Helmingly and Framfield (Sussex): Bridgwater Bros., Ashted, Surrey. Stourport (Worcestershire); Hanley, Trentham, Longdon, etc.; Cheadle (Staffs) and Congleton (Cheshire): Wyatt Bros., Whitechurch, Salop. Moreton-in-Marsh (Glos), Steeple Ashton, etc. (Oxon.): Moore & Rowley, Northfield. Kings Lynn and Diss (Norfolk); The Norwest Construction Co., Ltd., Liverpool. Carlisle-Kendal (Sections V. and VI.): David Thomson & Sons, Ltd., Carlisle. Wickford (Essex): Whittaker Ellis, Ltd., London, S.W. Henfield (Sussex): C.D.L. Construction Co., Ltd., Egham. C.T.O.—Finsbury Branch Office: Greig & Matthews, London, E.C. Fowey: A. H. Dingle, Redruth. Kettering: W. P. & P. G. Hayes, Ltd., Grappenhall.—**Conveyors**: Birmingham Parcel Sorting Office: A. Sauvée & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**E.H.T. Transformers, Oil Switch Fuse Units, &c.**: G.P.O. (North), London, E.C.1: Drake & Gorham, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Electric Lighting**: York New Station Sorting Office: Arthur R. Farrar & Co., Bradford.—**Power Plant**: Leicester Telephonic Repeater Station: Haslam & Newton, Ltd., Derby.—**Telephone Exchange Equipment**: Eccles; East; Broughton; Cheetham Hill (Manchester Area); Amherst; Regent; Grosvenor; Langham; Mayfair (London Area); Ashton-under-Lyne (Manchester): Automatic Telephone Mfg. Co., Ltd., London, W.C.

Sub-contractors for Mayfair and Ashton-under-Lyne: The Electric Construction Co., Ltd., London, W.C., for Motor Generator Sets and Ringing Machines. The Alton Battery Co., Ltd., Alton, Hants, for Batteries. Gatley (Manchester Area); Chislehurst (Kent): The General Electric Co., Ltd., Coventry. Sub-contractors for Gatley and Chislehurst: Crompton Parkinson, Ltd., Chelmsford, for Motor Generator Sets and Ringing Machines. D.P. Battery Co., Ltd., Bakewell, for Batteries. Orpington (Kent): Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. Sub-contractors for Orpington: The English Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C., for Charging Machines. Crompton Parkinson, Ltd., Chelmsford, for Ringing Machines. Hart Accumulator Co., Ltd., London, E., for Batteries. Tulse Hill (London Area): Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. Sub-contractors for Tulse Hill: The English Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C., for Charging Machines. Crompton Parkinson, Ltd., Chelmsford, for Ringing Machines. The Chloride Electrical Storage Co., Ltd., Manchester, for Batteries.—**Telephonic Repeater Equipment**: Manchester: Standard Telephones and Cables, Ltd., London, W.C.

H.M. OFFICE OF WORKS.

Building Works: Barbican, E.C., P.O.—Alterations: E. Pollard & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. Barrhead, Glasgow, Employment Exchange—Painter: William Rae, Glasgow; Plumber: Peter Ferguson, Glasgow; Slater, etc.: A. C. Whyte & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Steelwork: The Glasgow Steel Roofing Co., Ltd., Glasgow. Bethnal Green, E., Telephone Exchange—Asphalter: Lawford Asphalte Co., Ltd., London, E.; Steps: Girlings' Ferro-Concrete Co., Ltd., Northfleet. Bowes Park, N., Telephone Exchange—Roofing, etc.: Field & Palmer, Ltd., London, N. Brecon P.O., etc.—Adaptations: Bradford & Davies, Cardiff. Burnley Employment Exchange—Painter: T. Sinclair, Nelson; Plumber: J. W. Skelton & Sons, Ltd., Nelson. Carlisle Castle—Recreation Establishment, etc.: J. & R. Bell, Ltd., Carlisle. Chelsea, S.W., "Kensington" Telephone Exchange—Glazier: A. Goldstein & Co., London, S.E.; Scaffolding: Scaffolding (Gt. Britain), Ltd., London, S.W. Chester Sorting Office—Steelwork: Edward Wood & Co., Ltd., Manchester. Chipping Norton, Oxon., P.O.—Asphalter: Ragusa Asphalte Paving Co., Ltd., London, W.; Steelwork: Charles Wade & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Steps: Firmacrete, Ltd., Braintree. Chorley Employment Exchange—Erection: J. Whittaker & Sons (Blackburn), Ltd., Blackburn. Cranwell, Sleaford, R.A.F. College—Plumber, etc.: W. Freer, Ltd., Leicester. Crewe Employment Exchange—Asphalter: The Asphalte & Cement Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Mason: Henry Harding & Sons, Nantwich; Steelwork: Edward Wood & Co., Ltd., Manchester. Dagenham, Romford, Employment Exchange—Erection: A. Roberts & Co., Ltd., London, W. Dartmouth Coastguard Station—Alterations, etc.: R. Pillar & Son, Dartmouth. Darwen Telephone Exchange—Plasterer, etc.: William Bentley, Darwen; Plumber: Wrighton & Woods, Darwen. Deptford, S.E., Employment Exchange—Alterations: T. D. Leng, London, S.E. Derby, Midland Road P.O.—Steelwork: Burton Constructional Engr. Co., Ltd., Burton-on-Trent. Dundee, "Park" Telephone Exchange—Erections: J. B. Hay & Co., Dundee; Gates, etc.: Nicoll & Son, Dundee; Glazier: Lindsay & Scott, Dundee; Joiner: W. & R. Brownlee, Dundee; Painter: Allan Boath, Ltd., Dundee; Plumber: Thomson P. Finnister, Dundee; Steelwork: Redpath, Brown & Co., Ltd., Edinburgh. Edinburgh, Royal Scottish Museum—Carpenter: Henderson & Wilson, Leith; Glazier: A. Cunningham & Co., Edinburgh; Painter: G. M. Robb, Edinburgh; Plasterer: William Graham, Edinburgh; Plumber: William Nicol & Sons, Ltd., Edinburgh; Steelwork: Redpath, Brown & Co., Ltd., Edinburgh. Euston Road, N.W., P.O.—Adaptations: F. J. Moreton & Son, London, S.E. Greenock Inland Revenue Office—Painter: Chisholm Decorators, Ltd., Glasgow; Plasterer: John Struthers & Sons, Glasgow. Harrow, South, "Byron" Telephone Exchange—Pavior: Kendell's Paving Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Holloway, N., Money Order Department—Glazier: A. Goldstein & Co., London, S.E.; Plumber: W. H. Gascoigne & Co., London, W. Holyrood Park, Edinburgh—Drain: C. Macandrew, Ltd., Edinburgh. Huntly Castle—Road repairs: Kings & Co., Ltd., Glasgow. Kettleness Coastguard Station—Painter: J. Carr & Son, Scarborough. Kilburn, N.W., High Road P.O.—Alterations: Higgs & Hill, Ltd., London, S.W. Levenshulme, Manchester, P.O.—Erection: P. Hamer, Ltd., Manchester; Asphalter: R. H. Lord, Manchester; Concretor, etc.: The Concrete Unit Co., Ltd., Manchester; Painter: J. C. Mellor, Manchester; Plasterer: J. Cadman & Sons, Ltd., Manchester; Plumber: T. Grayson, Manchester;

Roofs: Caxton Floors, Ltd., London, S.W.; Steelwork: Edward Wood & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Tiler: Ames & Finnis, London, W.C. Lowestoft Head P.O.—Steelwork: A. S. Thorne & Son, Norwich. Luton Employment Exchange—Glazier: The Luton Glass Co., Luton; Joiner: A. Harris & Son, Harpenden. "Mayfair," W., Telephone Exchange—Tiler: Williams, Smith & Evans, London, S.E. Mount Pleasant, E.C., Letter Office—Sub-station Extension, etc.: H. Lacey & Sons, Luton. Neath Employment Exchange—Glazier: Mellowes & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; Plumber: Hampton's Heating Co., Ltd., Cardiff; Roofing: F. McNeill & Co., Ltd., London, W.C. North Shields Mercantile Marine Office—Painter: Johnstone & Craig, North Shields. Penn, Wolverhampton, Telephone Exchange—Steelwork: Jesse Tildesley, Ltd., Darlaston. Pinner, Middlesex, Telephone Exchange—Pavior: Kendell's Paving Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Poole Employment Exchange—Asphalter: Ragusa Asphalte Paving Co., Ltd., London, W. Tiler: Roberts, Adlard & Co., London, S.E. Purley, Surrey, Telephone Exchange—Plasterer: J. H. Jenner, London, W. Regent's Park, N.W., Pavilion—Tiler: J. S. Boutal, London, W. Rottingdean, Brighton, Telephone Exchange—Slater: W. T. Lamb & Sons, London, E.C. Shoreham, Sevenoaks, Telephone Exchange—Erection: J. B. Sharman, Ltd., Ramsgate. Sowerby Bridge, Yorks, Employment Exchange—Erection: Blakeley & Son, Barnoldswick. Standish, Wigan, Telephone Exchange, Painter: Lea & Son, Wigan. Tile Hill, Coventry, Telephone Exchange—Erection: W. R. Lane, Coventry. Wallington, Surrey, P.O.—Plasterer: The Granite Paving Co., Horley. Welwyn Telephone Exchange—Adaptations: C. J. Bond, Stevenage. Westcotes, Leicester, Telephone Exchange—Carpenter: George Gurney & Son, Leicester; Painter: Bell Bros., Leicester; Plasterer: A. Crewe & Sons, Ltd., Leicester; Roofing: Diespeker & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Stonemason: Walter Brown, Leicester. Wolverhampton Employment Exchange—Asphalter: Asphalte and Cement Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Stonework: D. French & Co., Birmingham. Woodford Green P.O.—Asphalter: Engert & Rolfe, Ltd., London, E.; Slater: John H. Turner & Lisney, Ltd., London, W. Woolwich, S.E., Spray Street, Employment Exchange—Erection: S. E. Adams, Westcliff.—**Maintenance Work**: Glasgow—Ironfounder: James McDougall & Son, Glasgow. Grays, etc.: W. Payne & Sons, Grays. Stirling—Painter: James Gordon, Bannockburn.—**Engineering Services**: Bayswater, W., Telephone Exchange—Heating: J. Combe & Son, Ltd., Welwyn. Edinburgh, H.M. Geological Survey—Boiler Covering, etc.: The Dundee Boiler Covering Co., Ltd., Dundee. Purley, Surrey, Telephone Exchange—Heating: Calor Engr. Co., Ltd., London, W. Somerset House, W.C.—Lift: Penrose Lifts, Ltd., London, S.E. Wisbech P.O.—Heating: Calor Engr. Co., Ltd., London, W.—**Painting**: J. Scott Fenn, Ltd., London, S.E.; J. Mowlem & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Miscellaneous**: Cabinets (Museum): G. Betjemann & Sons, Ltd., London, N. Casements (Steel), etc.: Crittall Mfg. Co., Ltd., London, W.C.; Doodson & Bain, Ltd., Chester; H. Hope & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Humphries, Jackson & Ambler, Ltd., Manchester.—Furniture: Roneo, Ltd., London, E.C.—Underfelt: Long Meadow Mills, Kidderminster.—Window Cleaning: Bright Window Cleaning Co., London, W.; City Window Cleaning Co. (London), Ltd., London, E.C.; Globe Window Cleaning Service, London, W.; Great Metropolitan Window Cleaning Co., Ltd., London, S.W.

METROPOLITAN POLICE.

Clothing Contracts, 1931-33: G. Glanfield & Son, Ltd., London, E.; Milns, Cartwright, Reynolds, Ltd., London, S.W.; J. Compton, Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E.; Arthur Miller, London, S.E.—**Rowing Boat and 2 Motor Boats**: F. Maynard, London, W.

NOTICE.

The "MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE" is published on or about the 18th of each month, price 6d. net. The annual subscription (post free) is 7s.

The Publishers (to whom should be addressed all communications concerning subscriptions and sales) are H.M. Stationery Office, Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2, and branches (see Cover).

PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE BY EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE, LTD., HIS MAJESTY'S PRINTERS, EAST HARDING STREET, LONDON, E.C.4.